Dancing queen

Thousands come out for GMHC's dance-a-thon

See page 10

Strong words

President speaks out against anti-gay violence

See page 12

Ode to Joi

Lesbian singer Joi Cardwell rocks the music industry

See page 27

NEW YORK Blade NEWS

Clinton presence speaks louder than his words

Protesters interrupt president's speech to gay gathering

By Ricardo Watson/UPI

"Being gay, the last time I thought about it, seemed to have nothing to do with the ability to balance a book, fix a broken bone, or change a spark plug," said President Bill Clinton.

BY LISA KEEN
NEWS ANALYSIS

When the first heckler shouted out during President Clinton's speech before a gay audience in Washington, the president lost his place in his text and inadvertently skipped over three paragraphs, said his gay community liaison, Richard Socarides.

But only Socarides and the president noticed.

That's because what Clinton said or didn't say Saturday night didn't seem to matter as much to the 1,500 gay men and lesbians assembled as the fact that he showed up.

Even before he uttered a word, the $250-a-plate throng packed into the Grand Hyatt's elegant ballroom for the Human Rights Campaign's first annual national dinner gave the commander-in-chief a prolonged and rousing standing ovation. And that was the critical dialogue Saturday night between the president and the gay movement: The president, through showing up, said gay people are important; the crowd, through its enthusiastic ovations, said it appreciates the good Clinton has done and forgives his trespasses.

In introducing President Clinton at the dinner, HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch thanked Clinton "not only for being here tonight, but for being the first president in history to stand up for our civil rights."

"You and we may not always stand in the same place on every issue at the same moment," said Birch, "but you

Continued on page 16

Ezio Petersen/UPI

A member of the gay activist group ACT UP interrupts President Clinton's address to the Human Rights Campaign with a plea for needle exchange.

Students, faculty defend women's conference

Governor, trustee attack annual event as an 'outrageous' use of state funding

BY ROBERT DAVID SULLIVAN

Students and faculty at the State University of New York at New Paltz this week defended a conference recently held on campus that included workshops on lesbian issues. The "women's sexual conference" has been criticized by the governor and at least one member of the SUNY Board of Trustees.

On Wednesday morning, the SUNY/New Paltz faculty passed a resolution in support of the conference, according to Pat Clarke, program assistant for the university's Women's Studies Program. The resolution, passed by voice vote, affirmed "the role of a public university in promoting open and uncensored dialogue and debate about controversial issues."

First-year student John Crandall, president of BiGayLa, an alliance of gay, straight, and transgender students, said on Wednesday that he and two other students have collected at least 500 names from the university community on a petition in support of both the conference and SUNY/New Paltz President Roger W. Bowen, who authorized the event. Crandall said that copies of the petition would be sent to Republican Governor George E. Pataki, SUNY Chancellor John Ryan, and Thomas Egan, chairperson of the SUNY Board of Trustees.

The conference, entitled "Revolting Behavior: The Challenges of Women's Sexual Freedom," was held on at SUNY/New Platz on Nov. 1. The conference included workshops on homophobia, birth control, and HIV education, as well as such topics as "Sex Toys for Women" and "Safe, Sane and Consensual S&M: An Alternative Way of Loving."

In a statement released last week, Governor Pataki called the conference "outrageous" and said he is seeking ways to "prevent this kind of activity from happening on a SUNY campus again."

Governor Pataki said his complaint "has nothing to do with freedom of speech and everything to do with the proper expenditure of dollars."

"It is more than just disturbing," he said, "that a tax-supported SUNY campus would sponsor this kind of activity."

Clarke, of the Women's Studies Program, said the

Continued on page 8

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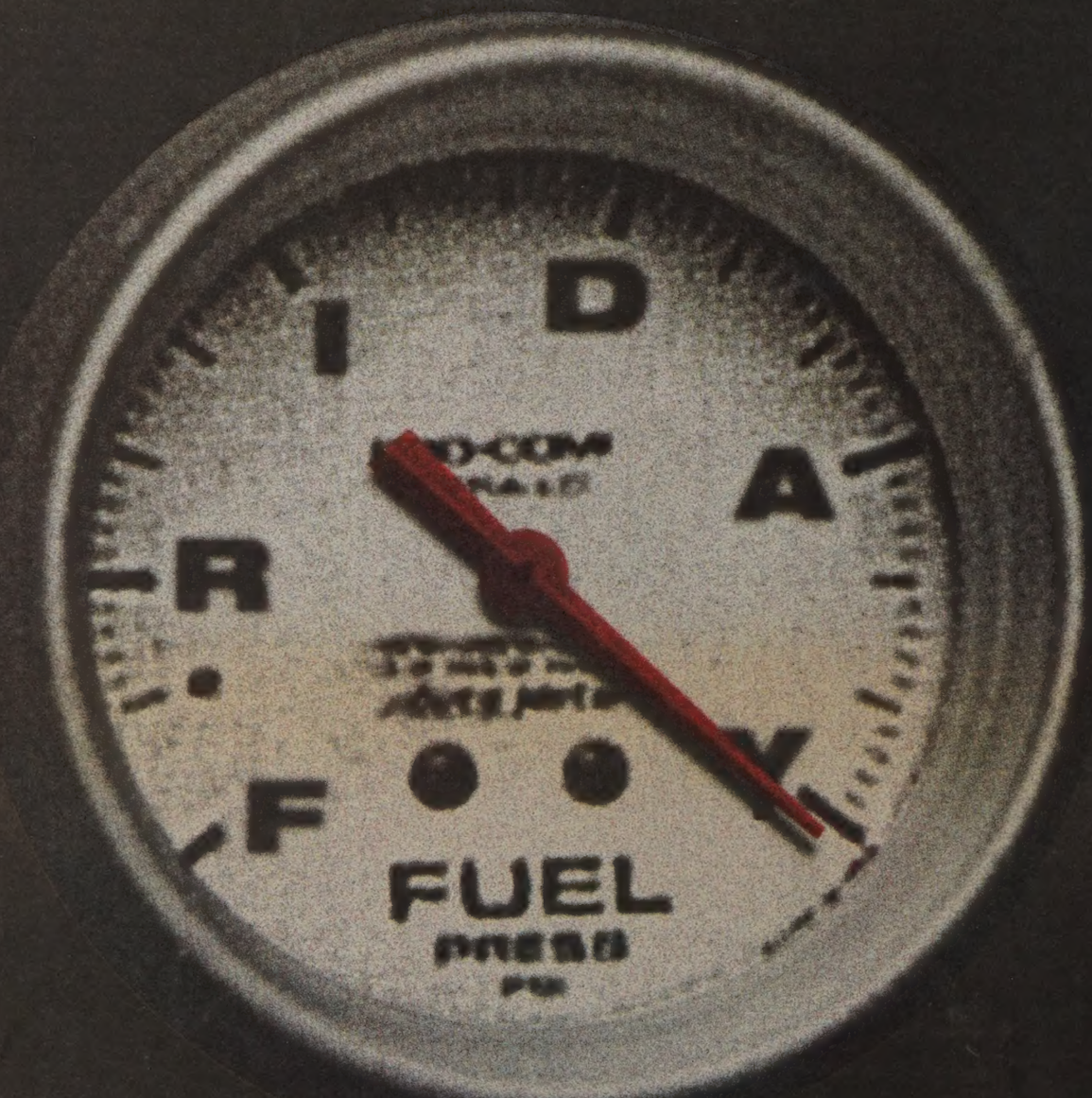

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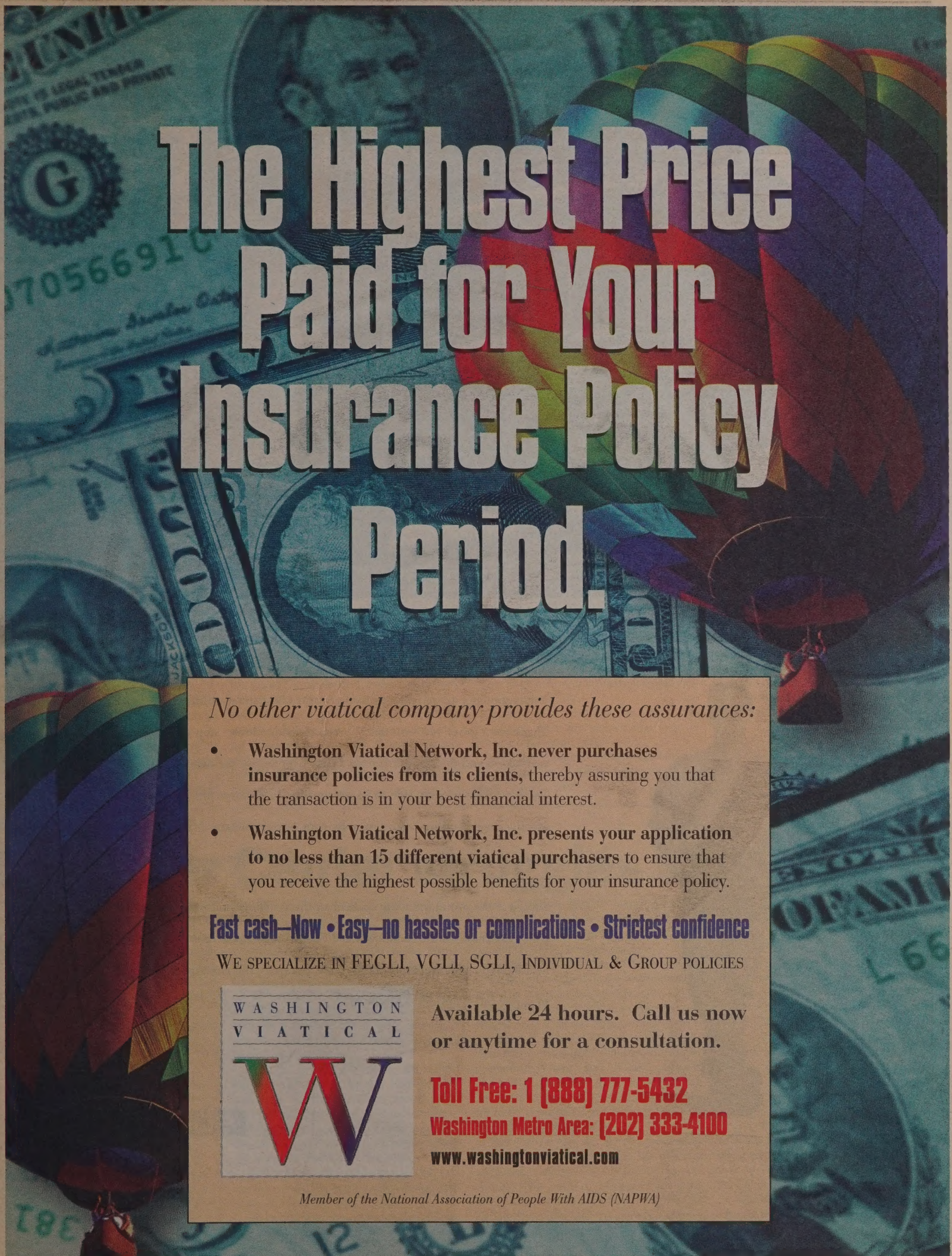
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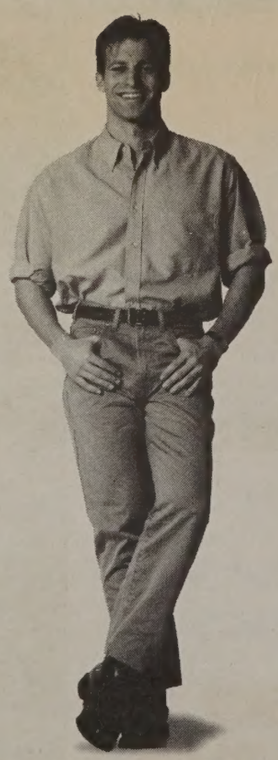

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Staten Island

Bustling eatery serves more than food

BY CHRISTINE DINSMORE

Staten Island gays don't have a community center, but they may not need one. They have Lil's.

Kim Gordon and Sandra Delzotti opened Lil's Eatery 11 years ago this past Halloween. Located on Stuyvesant Place, just a stone's throw from the ferry terminal, the restaurant serves as the social hub and gossip mill of the community.

"Whatever happens always makes it through these doors," said Gordon.

Walking into Lil's is like taking a journey to days gone by. Eleven black stools line the counter, and six green and purple booths line the walls. Gordon playfully banters with teenagers about why they're not in school. Delzotti recites the favorite meals of the regulars.

The luncheonette is a place where locals meet and catch up on the news. It's also the home of Lambda Associates of Staten Island's weekly Saturday breakfast.

By Christine Dinsmore

Kim Gordon, co-owner of Lil's Eatery, helps run Staten Island's unofficial community center.

"It seems like Lil's has been here forever," said Kevin O'Dea, president of Lambda Associates, a gay social, cultural, and educational group. "When you go there, you're always guaranteed to see people you know. It's a great place to schmooze."

On Friday nights, Lil's is the unofficial meeting place for many gay people. Since its owners are open lesbians, the restaurant has become something of a haven for gays in a borough that has not always been seen as gay-friendly. Gays there still talk about Borough President Guy Molinari criticizing Karen Burstein's run for state attorney general by saying that no lesbian should run for elected office.

"My sexual orientation is not an issue for anyone," said Gordon. "It's like I have an arm."

O'Dea praises the owners for their attempts to give back to the community by providing space for local fundraisers.

"Kim is a pillar in the community," said O'Dea. "She is the first one we go to when we need to raise funds. And Lil's is always ready to help."

Remnants of a recent fundraiser still decorate the walls. Photographs by a Staten Island socialite, Alice Austin, who is widely rumored to have been a lesbian, were hung for a gala event to raise money for the Alice Austen House, a local museum on Hylan Boulevard.

"They say Alice Austen was a lesbian," said Gordon. "But I never slept with her; so I can't say she was."

There's more to the borough's gay social life than Lil's, however. Lambda Associates puts out a monthly calendar which includes such events as a gay comedy night — where members bring in comedy tapes or do stand-up routines — potluck dinners, men's nights, and women's nights. Most events are held at the Unitarian Church on Fillmore Street.

Founded in 1984, Lambda Associates mails its monthly newsletter to over 800 people to help keep gays abreast of the community's activities.

The borough's gay community extends even further. There is also a large religious community, the most prominent being the Episcopalian gay group, Integrity.

Last year Charlie Keeler, one of the founders of the group, approached the Rev. M. Joanna White of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church about beginning an Integrity chapter. He said he believed there was a need for a church in Staten Island that would welcome gay members.

White gave Keeler the green light, and the group held its first service a year ago on Nov. 1 — All Saints' Day.

"We wanted people to know that we, too, — gays and lesbians — are part of the saints," said Keeler.

Integrity/Staten Island is one of 60 chapters in the United States. There are currently 35 members in the chapter, according to Keeler.

Integrity will celebrate its first anniversary tonight at 8 p.m. with a special Mass. The group delayed the anniversary celebration for two weeks so that Dr. Louie Crew, who founded Integrity in Georgia in 1974, could deliver the sermon.

Integrity is not the only gay religious group in the borough. The Rev. Ashley Padilla, a transgender person, is launching the First International Fellowship Church. Padilla said he began organizing this church because he did not feel welcome as a transgender person in mainstream churches.

"There are so many people in the closet in Staten Island," said Padilla. "They need to be told they can come out and worship."

The church is scheduled to open the first week of December in a donated space at the old post office on Bay Street, according to Padilla. The First International Fellowship will primarily serve gays, he said, but will welcome everyone.

The borough is also home to the Staten Island AIDS Task Force. An integral part of the task force is the EAGLE program — Education on AIDS in a Gay and Lesbian Environment.

EAGLE's primary functions are providing AIDS education to the gay community, training service providers to deal with gay clients, and organizing peer training groups.

Although the group's primary work is in Staten Island, it also provides outreach off the island because many Staten Islanders go to Brooklyn, Manhattan, and New Jersey to be gay, according to Chris Bauer, EAGLE's program coordinator.

The group's outreach can be quite creative, including house parties where they can

Continued on page 6

The Bronx

Lavender Center struggles to reopen

BY CHRISTINE DINSMORE

Audrey McKenzie of Bronx Able and Visible, a group for people with disabilities, wonders when her group will be able to meet again at the Bronx Lavender Community Center.

"I call periodically," she said, "to find out when the center will open so we can meet again."

But when she calls, she hears a recording: "We would like to thank all of our brothers and sisters who have helped in the development of the center. But due to reorganization, BLCC is currently closed. However, we will be open in the future. Location will be announced."

Although the office space at the Poe Building on 1432 Grand Concourse remains furnished like before, the office door is locked while the community tries to iron out the details.

The center officially closed last month because the center did not have liability insurance. But the crux of the center's problem, according to one of its board members, Jim Monaghan, and the center's former director, Crystal Paris, was a power struggle between leaders on the board.

While McKenzie of Able and Visible said she is hopeful the center will reopen, others aren't holding their breaths.

In an article in the latest newsletter from Gay Men of the Bronx, Charles Rice-Gonzalez, a former BLCC board member, reports that "problems on the board level and with its leadership contributed to the possibility of the center's demise."

"Demise" is not in the vocabulary of the center's current board. Monaghan said a group of community activists met recently to discuss how to get the center jumpstarted after it closed its doors last month.

Stacey Strother, Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer's liaison to the gay community, said she leaned toward describing the center more as in a period of "restructuring" rather than "demise." "I try to be proactive," she said. "I'd call it a state of reorganization."

But "while the whole reorganization process is resolved," she said, her office is withholding $28,000 it had allocated for the center. The center's attorney, Jeanette Westphal, said she is working with BLCC to help it comply with the borough office's guidelines to get access to the funding.

Rice-Gonzalez's pessimism comes from his belief that, if the center is not dead, it will need to have a complete overhaul to be reopened for groups to use.

About eight organizations, such as Bronx Able and Visible and Bronx Fifty-Plus Guys, a group for older gay men, met in the center when it was open this year, according to Paris, and these groups are now in limbo without meeting space.

Technically speaking the center is closed because it has no liability insurance, and without liability insurance, board members could be held responsible in the event of an accident, according to Monaghan.

But Monaghan said the bigger issue lies with the center's former president Paris, who had been elected by the board of directors. Monaghan said Paris "walked out" on BLCC in September.

"She left us flat as a bug," said Monaghan. "You don't walk out, like she did, until you have

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Correction

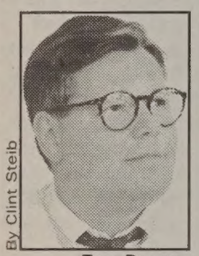
Due to incorrect information provided by election officials, our Nov. 7 coverage of openly gay candidates around the country incorrectly reported results in three races. Bill Schmidt won his bid for City Council in Peekskill, N.Y. Malcolm Gideons and Cathy Woolard won enough votes to be thrown into a runoff election in their bids for City Council in Atlanta, Ga.

CITY DESK

Duane joins AIDS panel AIDS activists this week praised the appointment of New York City Councilmember Tom Duane to the state's AIDS Advisory Council. Duane attended his first meeting on Nov. 5.

Duane, a gay man living with HIV, was appointed to the council last month by State Senate Minority Leader Martin Connors. He joins the AIDS Advisory Council at a time when it is under fire from activists for controversial views expressed by several members appointed by Gov. George Pataki. At a July meeting of the council, for instance, Dr. David Hodes said people with AIDS should be regarded as "perpetrators as well as victims." Member Bill Viscovitch has advocated for reporting the names of people with AIDS.

In August, Housing Works, a local group that provides housing for people with AIDS, called for the resignations of Hodes and Viscovitch and the appointment of more representatives with HIV to the council.



By Clint Steib

Tom Duane

Charles King, co-executive director of Housing Works, called Duane's appointment "good news" for the community.

"On a council that has become increasingly a mockery with the governor's appointments, Tom Duane is a glimmer of hope," King said.

Duane acknowledged that there are some "homophobic, AIDS-phobic" people on the council. "But I plan to be a responsible, opposing view to those voices," he said.

Wall Street employee sues A former employee of the Wall Street bank firm of Dresdner, Kleinwort, and Benson filed suit in a state court in Manhattan on Nov. 14, charging that he was fired because he is gay. The lawsuit contends, among other things, that the firm violated the city's human rights law prohibiting employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The plaintiff, Joseph Daniel, is seeking $175 million in punitive damages.

Daniel, who holds an MBA in business management from Yale University, was an assistant vice president of subsidiaries for the firm until he was offered a promotion to vice president in June 1996. The firm announced Daniel's promotion, gave him new business cards, and ordered a new plaque for his door, according to Daniel's attorney, Madeline Bryer.

"Then it became known that he had a house on Fire Island," said Bryer. "He was informed in September 1996 that his promotion could not be finalized."

Bryer said Daniel continued to work at the firm in his new position with his old title. Then, on April 11, 1997, Daniel wrote a letter to the company's human resources department urging them to offer health benefits to domestic partners. He was terminated on April 23, and told it was due to downsizing.

"The complaint is unfounded and totally without merit," said Jon Hartzell, a spokesperson for Dresdner.

"We experienced a downsizing at the corporate level."

"Dresdner Kleinwort, Benson is an equal opportunity employer and does not practice or condone any discrimination against employees," Hartzell said.

—KATIE SZYMANSKI

Health

Five AIDS organizations awarded more than $4 million

Grants go to services 'that would otherwise not be available'

BY KATIE SZYMANSKI

Five AIDS organizations in the New York City area won competitive grants last week totaling more than $4 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

HUD's Housing for Persons with AIDS program announced Nov. 3 that the winners of its national competitive grants include Catholic Community Services of Jersey City, United Bronx Parents, Church Avenue Merchants Block of Brooklyn, The Center for Children and Families of Manhattan, and Hudson Planning Group of Manhattan.

These grants are in addition to HUD's formula grants, which distribute $200 million nationally, based on the needs of an area's AIDS population.

HUD spokesperson Alex Sachs said more than 100 organizations around the country applied for the 20 awards available.

"They had to have a very unique application in order to qualify," he said.

Manhattan's Center for Children and Families plans to use its award of $1.2 million for its SafeHome and SafeSpace programs, according to program director Carl Siciliano. SafeHome is a shelter on 47th Street that provides housing for up to 12 teenagers with HIV. SafeSpace is a drop-in center that provides counseling, education, and job placement to street youth, many of whom are gay.

"There are thousands of homeless kids in the city, and only 200 shelter beds available," said Siciliano. "From an HIV prevention perspective, this is terrible."

Siciliano said that, despite the millions of dollars the city spends on AIDS services, many homeless teenagers are still falling through the cracks.

"The city is neglecting this aspect of AIDS," he said.

Jersey City's Catholic Community Services will use its total award of $1.28 million to fund several services for people with AIDS. One new service, the Canaan House, will receive $1.24 million of the CCC's grant and will provide independent living facilities for up to 10 men and women with AIDS who suffer from addiction or mental illness. An existing service, Operation Link, will receive $49,936 to continue to provide outreach to Jersey City people with AIDS, offering food, clothing, counseling, shelter placement, and HIV testing. While Catholic Community Services does not offer gay-specific programs, spokesperson Leslie Moore said many gay people take advantage of the programs.

Operation Link is a "demonstration program," which means that, if it is effective, it may be replicated around the country. Part of Operation Link's HUD award money will fund an evaluation by Columbia University of Operation Link's cost effectiveness.

"The evaluation is primarily concerned with the services offered," said Sachs. "We want to make sure people are getting everything they need."

HUD dollars will also fund an evaluation of a one-year-old project called "Casita Esperanza," a transitional housing program of United Bronx Parents. Bronx Parents was formed 31 years ago by a group of mothers and continues offers youth programs and other services. The "Casita Esperanza" program provides 12 emergency and 30 temporary beds to men and women with AIDS who are homeless and awaiting placement or were recently discharged from substance abuse treatment programs. This year's award of $50,000 will fund the local evaluation conducted by Hunter College.

UBP offers a lesbian support group through its women's support services division, said Executive Development Director Mark Vandenburgh, but many of the organization's clients do not identify as gay.

"We certainly serve many men and women who have same-gender sex, but they don't call it gay up here," he said.

Brooklyn's Church Avenue Merchants Block will use its $1.2 million to develop Housing Start, a project consisting of buildings and homes around Brooklyn for people with AIDS who have no place to live. The project will provide shelter and AIDS-related services to its residents. Spokesperson Maria Romero said gays will "definitely be included" in the population served by the program.

Hudson Planning Group is a consortium that includes well-known AIDS organizations like Housing Works and Bailey House. It will use its award of $334,750 to continue research and evaluation of the Housing Network Development Project, a pilot program that seeks to match people with AIDS needing a place to live with the appropriate housing project.

New York HUD spokesperson Adam Glantz said the grants will help nearly 11,000 people in the area.

"AIDS remains a looming problem for far too many New Yorkers," he said. "We hope this money will help with necessary housing and services that would otherwise not be available."

Bustling eatery serves more than food

Continued from Page 5

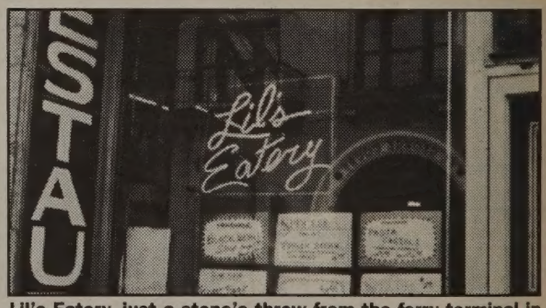
reach people who are reluctant to step foot inside an AIDS agency. The house parties include discussions on various topics, from sex toys to safer sex to an S/M talk called "Spankly Speaking."

"The house parties are sort of like Tupperware parties," said Bauer. "It's a rubberwear party."

Bauer, a gay man who moved to Staten Island from San Francisco, said he believes that, although the borough is relatively conservative, it is becoming more accepting. He noted that the Staten Island Democrats, a mainstream group, recently honored him for his work for the party. The group's recognition of an openly gay man, Bauer said, is a sign of the borough isn't quite as anti-gay as many believe.

Gay organizations and businesses are also popping up throughout the borough. A scan of the Lambda Associates' newsletter finds such gay-owned businesses as dog groomers, chiropractors, counselors, photographers, and financial planners.

As the burgeoning gay community grows, people may need to drift into Lil's Eatery to find out what's new. Between Lambda's Saturday breakfast and Friday-night dinners, most people find out what's going on in the borough.



Lil's Eatery, just a stone's throw from the ferry terminal in Staten Island, serves as an unofficial community center.

Gay Staten Islanders may even get a jump on what's happening in local government. People who work in Borough Hall often patronize Lil's.

"Guy Molinari, though, has never eaten here," said Gordon. "But we've sent him over some lunch."

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Organizers defend women's conference

Continued from Page 1

amount of public funding involved with putting on the conference was minimal and that the funding issue was being used by critics to "seize the opportunity of what is perceived as controversy."

"The chair that I sit on, the desk that I use, the shades on my window – yes, those come from tax dollars," she said. "The conference is another story."

According to Clarke, the Women's Studies Program received $800 from the university to help fund the conference, amounting to only about 20 percent of the roughly $4,000 it cost to put on the event. The Office of the President and the Office of the Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences each contributed $400, she said. Clarke said that an additional $1,200, earmarked for the keynote speakers, came from the privately funded New Paltz Foundation. The rest of the funding came from conference registrants, she noted; about 100 people attended the event at an admission fee of $20 each. Clarke said that this funding breakdown has been pretty much the same for several years.

Pataki asked Chancellor Ryan for a report on the conference and for recommendations on how to prevent similar events from being held at public universities. The issue is expected to be on the agenda at the next meeting of the university's Board of Trustees, on Nov. 18.

Ken Burda, vice president of institutional advancement at SUNY/New Paltz, said that the university would not release any public statements about the controversy until President Bowen has a chance to meet with the Board of Trustees and the New Paltz College Council, an advisory board named by the governor. The Council was scheduled to meet on Thursday afternoon.

"Revolting Behavior" was the 21st annual conference sponsored by the Women's Studies Program. Clarke said this year's subject matter was not significantly different from that at previous gatherings. She added that it was actually a serious challenge to keep the conference "cutting-edge" after so many years.

But this year the event caught the attention of SUNY trustee Candace de Russy, who publicly called for the resignation of President Bowen because of the conference's "travesty of academic standards." De Russy did not return a phone call from a Blade reporter.

The conference also received unexpected publicity in newspapers, such as the Wall Street Journal. The Journal ran a column mockingly headlined "A Syllabus for Sickos." It was written by Roger Kimball, managing editor of The New Criterion, a conservative magazine.

Critics of the women's studies conference were particularly upset by the closing event, a performance piece by Shelly Mars called "Whiplash: Tale of a Tomboy." Mars, who has worked in the past as a stripper, described the autobiographical piece to the Blade as "vignettes and stories about the sex business."

"It deals with being gay and being mixed up about it," she added. Toward the end of the performance, Mars straddled a male actor and began whipping him, a scene that was emphasized in a New York Times account of the event.

"They picked one little bit out of the show," Mars said. "Yes, I did whip a male colleague. But it's in the context of the story. People find it very funny."

"This piece was more mainstream than anything I've done," she said. "It wasn't in-your-face. Some people are offended by anything that has to do with sexuality."

President Bowen has stated that the conference was within the acceptable bounds of debate on a university campus.

"Using money or ideologies to hold ideas hostage is antithetical to the very nature of the public university," Bowen said, during his welcoming address at another conference, held one week after the women's studies gathering.

That unrelated conference, held by the School of Fine and Performing Arts, added to the controversy. Entitled "Subject to Desire: Refiguring the Body," the conference included an art exhibit with enlarged photographs of vaginas and enlarged illustrations of female genitalia from Gray's Anatomy. The event also included a play about AIDS and a seminar on the sexual content in Andy Warhol films.

REVOLTING BEHAVIOR
THE CHALLENGES OF WOMEN'S SEXUAL FREEDOM
A CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY
TUDIES PROGRAM AND CONFERENCE SERVICES
ATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT NEW PALTZ

Governor George Pataki called the conference "outrageous" and said he is seeking ways to "prevent this kind of activity from happening on a SUNY campus again."

In a letter to the Wall Street Journal, Bowen declared that he found several of the topics at the women's studies conference to be "offensive" and in "poor taste" but that such feelings did not change his support for the event.

Clarke said that she saw no need to apologize for any of the "Revolting Behavior" program.

"We want to keep our conference community stimulated," she said, before catching herself. "Wait! We have to watch out for double meanings now. Let's just say we want to keep them interested."

Clarke added that women's sexuality is "certainly a legitimate topic" in academia and that the flap over the New Paltz conference won't mean anything in the long run.

"Women's studies have never backed down from controversy before," she said, "and we won't start now."

Bronx community center locks its doors

Continued from Page 5

your desk cleaned off, your priorities taken care of, and someone trained to do your job."

Monaghan said Paris called the board on Sept. 21 to schedule an emergency meeting for the next day. She did not show up for the meeting, according to Monaghan. Instead, Vice President Francisco Lazala arrived to give the board Paris' letter of resignation, which was effective immediately.

What further complicated the situation, said Monaghan, was that Paris had not shared her authority with anyone prior to her resignation. She enforced the center's bylaws "like a dictator," he said.

That resulted in a management crisis because checkbooks, records, and resources were unknown to those who remained with the center, he added.

Paris doesn't see it quite the same way. She said she resigned as president because she believed that some board members undermined her plans to move the center forward. She said rather than have the center stymied by infighting, she chose to resign.

"With one or two board members resisting my taking the center to the next level," said Paris, "I felt it was time for the center to move forward without me."

Paris agreed that her strict enforcement of the center's mission statement and bylaws met resistance from board members, but she said it was necessary in order to accomplish some of the goals the center hoped to accomplish, such as setting up a health center.

"I was handling the organization in a very structured way," she said, "and to our credit, we proved ourselves and acquired basic funding" from the borough president.

Monaghan said that some of the board members did not want to continue running the organization as strictly as Paris and wanted to restructure the organizational framework so decisions could be made more easily.

"We would get bogged down in this committee or that committee," said Monaghan. "It didn't need to be that formal."

Janine Hakim, formerly secretary of the board, said that the center, like any new group, has problems at first. But she said she believes that the people who came together to start the center came with the best of intentions.

"Most organizations, regardless of their scope or who they serve, go through ups and downs," said Hakim. "During those ups and downs, when people are grappling with issues and hashing things out, sometimes they can be brutal. I think that it's unfortunate when that becomes public record."

During this period of struggle, the Bronx Borough President's office learned from Paris of her resignation and the reorganization of the board, according to Ferrer's liaison Strother. With the organization's future unclear, she said, Ferrer's office froze the $28,000 funds it had allocated in this year's budget for the group.

After its restructuring process, the center's board must submit appropriate paperwork to the borough president's office and then "a total reevaluation" of the center will take place to determine funding availability, Strother said.

There are other issues, including the lack of liability insurance, which also must be corrected if the center is to be considered for further funding, said Strother. And before any funding will be restored, community leaders will need to update their mission statement and bylaws, according to Strother.

"We are very supportive of the program," said Strother, "and the borough president is committed to this program and is trying to be very supportive. He is committed to the needs of the gay and lesbian community."

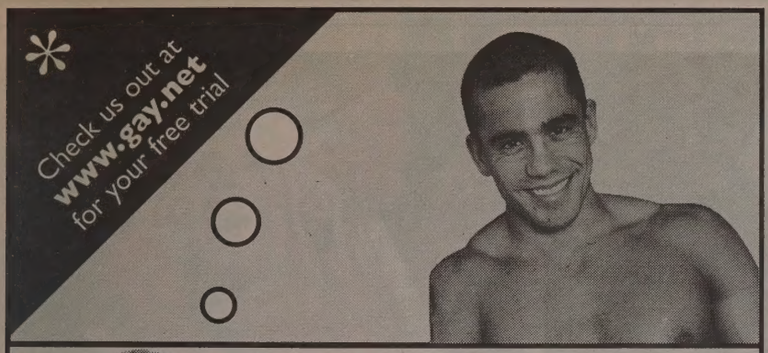
"The community center does not belong to any individual or to the board," said Hakim. "It belongs to the community. The center will be here five years from now. The board members may not."

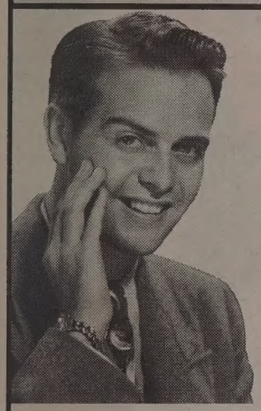
In spite of their differences, Monaghan and Paris both voiced their support for the continuation of the Bronx Lavender Community Center.

Monaghan said he hopes the center will open again so the groups that depended on the center for space can resume. It's the community's need that keeps people working toward opening the center, he said.

Paris said it would be a shame if the center did not reopen.

"I have hopes that the group can come up with a viable plan so the borough president can begin to fund it," said Paris. "If the Bronx fails to maintain a center, services for our community will be segmented in some other organizations. It would definitely be a step backward."





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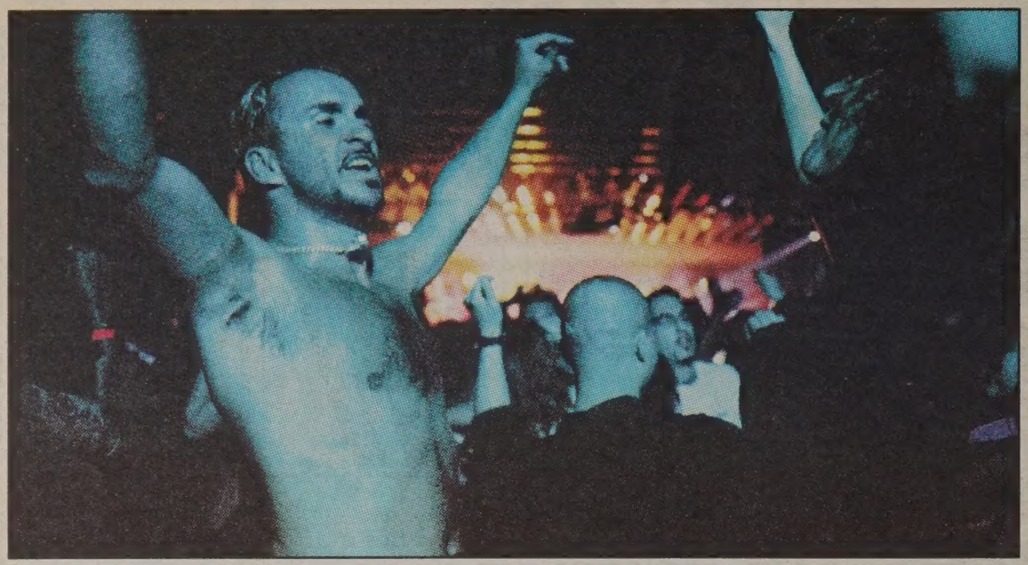

Photos by Jake Price

Dancers at the dance

More than 3,500 people put on their boogie shoes for Gay Men's Health Crisis' seventh annual Dance-a-thon on Nov. 8. The event raised $600,000 for GMHC.

The event, which occupied Piers 90 and 92, was hosted by Sandra Bernhard, Rosie Perez, Queen Latifah, and Nona Hendryx. An appearance by Grace Jones concluded the evening's impressive performance line-up, which also included Salt-N-Pepa and Naughty by Nature.

"It was a fun night, and it was a trip to see Sandra and Grace on the same stage," said GMHC Communications Director Stephen Soba.

On Pier 90, participants were treated to carnival rides, games, and refreshments. Volunteers distributed educational materials on GMHC programs, including the Lesbian AIDS Project, Soul Food (a group for black gay men), Proyecto PAPI (a group for Latinos), and Peer 2000 (a group for youth and young adults).

"What makes this event so important," said GMHC Executive Director Mark Robinson, "is that it raises funds as well as awareness."

—KATIE SZYMANSKI

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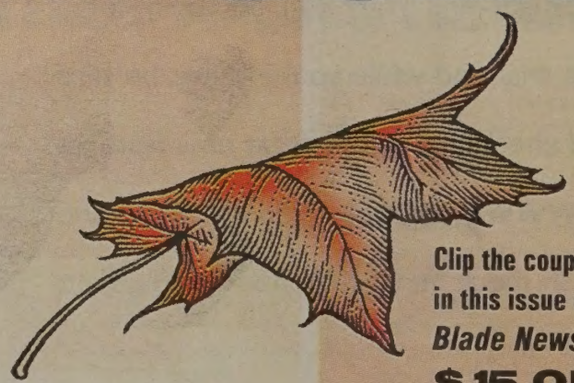

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LETTERS

Media handling of Williams is racist

There are a number of lessons that we should be taking from the Nushawn Williams case, none of which seem to be addressed by the media's hysterical coverage, nor by the lurching and furious spin put out by the supposed public health experts and organized community leadership.

Where has everyone been? There are hundreds of "Nushawn Williamses." And for the last 10 years or more, there have been thousands of young women in New York City who, on a daily basis, are put at and/or put themselves at risk for infection with HIV and other STDs. We all see and know these young people. Williams didn't bring HIV to Chautauqua. HIV was already there. Williams did not bring HIV to the South Bronx or to Bedford-Stuyvesant or Harlem. HIV is already here.

The key to preventing HIV infections is about having information, personal power, and a sense of self-esteem to make changes in individual behavior around sexual and drug-taking activity. This does not happen through a sole encounter with a condom and a brochure or with a 30-minute pre- or post-HIV-test counseling session. Risk of HIV infection and other STDs is complicated by drug addiction, emotional needs, and depression. This is an exceedingly complex task when you are talking about engaging adolescents, especially poor, young women of color who have limited options and opportunities. HIV prevention is about a sustained, long-term commitment to engaging people and communities in risk reduction techniques, skills-building around negotiating safer sex, and taking responsibility for their own lives and the lives of others. Commitment must also be pledged to create both educational and employment opportunities.

It is time to say it: HIV prevention works. It works when there is a meaningful, comprehensive approach that acknowledges the long-term, complex, integrated, and sustained work that is effective HIV prevention. This kind of ongoing outreach and engagement of individuals and communities is not facilitated by measures that mandate testing and quarantines, with wanted-poster-style public notification, with criminalizing HIV infection, or any of the other "strategies" that are designed to quell the fears of an ill-informed public.

There is something fundamentally racist in the media response to this incident. Where have the voices of outrage been when special interest groups put a stranglehold on any provisions for aggressive AIDS education in the schools? Where have the voices been as the epidemic continues to ravage African-American and Latina women in the prime of their young lives? Where have the voices been when not one dime of federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention dollars set aside for directly-funded HIV-prevention resources can make its way to hard-hit communities like Central Harlem and Bedford-Stuyvesant and Brownsville?

Where is the outrage? Where is the horror?

Tracie M. Gardner
Policy Director
Harlem Directors Group

Diversity strengthens Christopher Street

The chairs of the Christopher Street Block and Merchants Association who wrote "X-rated shops harm street" (*New York Blade News*, Letters, Oct. 24) sound like 19th-century vigilantes running saloons out of Ohio, but their language and goals are Mayor Rudy Giuliani's. Never mind that the videostore owners they demonize have legitimate leases and are merchants themselves, or that one store at Hudson and Christopher has been there at least 15 years, or that none of the establishments in question have any kind of window display that would make even Mrs. Grundy complain. The stores' merchandise is sexually oriented, and that's something Giuliani has problems with.

As for the writers' charge that Christopher Street is now a home for teenage prostitution, I have never seen anything even remotely resembling it on Christopher.

As for drugs, I have been offered drugs on the piers, in Washington Square, on 6th Avenue, and on 8th Street — all without benefit of X-rated video stores.

As for the undesirable rowdy crowds brought in by these video stores, get real. Most of these newcomers arrive by PATH train, which is on Christopher, but they frequent fast food places, shoe stores, clothing stores, music stores, and yes, the piers. Christopher Street is the main access road to those piers, and has fast food and souvenir stores. What do the writers want to do? Segregate Christopher Street? These newcomers are mostly black and Latin.

As for their charge that the X-rated stores have an undesirable effect on business, especially on the west end of Christopher, the most successful businesses anywhere on Christopher Street are Crunch, a gym, and the Dugout, a bar, both way out west. Some of the least successful businesses are on the east end of the street.

Vigilantes and Giuliani are useful when they're dealing with gunfighters, but apart from that, they become the problem. As a New Yorker and Village aficionado for over 30 years, I know that diversity is what the Village and Christopher Street and New York City are about. Keep suburban small-mindedness off Christopher Street.

Jack Noordhoorn
Manhattan

Both parties have questions to answer

Michael Aronowitz of the Log Cabin Republicans is right: the gay community needs to "hold Republicans and Democrats to equal standards" (*New York Blade News*, Letters, Nov. 7). Unfortunately, he goes on to issue a blanket condemnation of all Democratic and "liberal gay leaders" while defending Mayor Rudy Giuliani's record on gay issues as "solid." Homosexual marriages, equal benefits for all domestic partners, independent monitoring of abusive cops, and a school curriculum that teaches respect for homosexuals just as it teaches respect for all other groups — all this has been opposed by the mayor who, meanwhile, avidly supports bigots like the Ancient Order of Hibernians. That's a solid record, all right, but not in our favor.

Still, why hasn't a Democratic-controlled City Council passed a domestic partners bill? Why are so many Democrats rushing to oppose homosexual marriages on "moral grounds," Mr. Schumer? Where are the effective Democratic candidates for governor, Mr. McCall? Where were the effective Democratic candidates for mayor this year, Mr. Hevesi? Is waiting for a safer shot at being elected mayor anyone's idea of leadership, especially when that waiting game is coupled with a muting of criticism toward Giuliani?

There is a dearth of leadership and reliability from Republicans and Democrats alike.

Andy Buck
Manhattan

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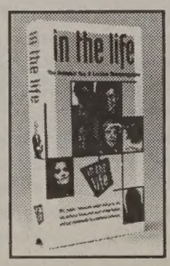

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First Person / Will O'Bryan

Shopping for justice

Buy for justice. Buy for peace. Just buy. This whole scheme of businesses vying for gay dollars, and consumers using their gay dollars to effect political change, is starting to make me a little bit cynical.

My first clue that consumer politics are not as clear-cut as they seem was the American Airlines strike earlier this year. After President Clinton ordered the pilots back to work and fares plummeted, I wondered if I should take advantage of the cheap tickets I could finally afford. American was the official carrier to a lot of gay events lately, so supporting them would encourage other businesses to support the gay community. Then again, wasn't American's pro-gay profile a feat of marketing in the wake of some reported anti-gay incidents on a couple of their planes headed to the Gay Games a few years back? Besides, I had to admit that crossing a forcibly dissolved picket line would be somewhat anti-labor. There was no simple, politically correct course of action.

I'm now harassed into buying "gay-friendly" items, another category for me to consider when spending my meager resources. Will the profit somehow, somewhere, sometime, and to some small degree be used to attack gay people?

Thinking about all this opened a socio-economic can of worms in my Catholic-reared, guilt-ridden psyche. I'm addicted to always wanting to do the right (or rather, left) thing. I'm now harassed into buying "gay-friendly" items, another category for me to consider when spending my meager resources. Is it dolphin-friendly? Is it ozone-friendly? Can I recycle it? Will the profit somehow, somewhere, sometime, and to some small degree be used to attack gay people?

As the economy becomes globalized and uncontrollably gargantuan, I'm told people should vote with their dollars or pesos or dinars. Voter apathy will be counterbalanced by politically applied consumerism. Why do I need to vote if I've got the right long-distance company and credit cards funneling profits to support my causes? All I have to do is spend, or not spend.

When Anita Bryant used to market Florida orange juice in the 1970s, her bigoted rants were enough to cause gays to boycott the stuff. In the spirit of American revolutionaries, we should've dumped the juice into Miami Harbor. I was too young to have political leanings when Bryant was in her heyday, but right-wing orange juice endorsements seem to be cyclical. The juice cartel found Rush Limbaugh's bile-raising visage an appetizing successor to Bryant in the 1990s, but somehow I couldn't muster much alarm by then. In the face of much more serious political issues – AIDS, anti-gay legislation – it just didn't register. Haven't the lives of sexual minority citizens become at least secure enough that we don't have to scrutinize every penny? It serves only to complicate our lives further and leaves us too exhausted to fight the big battles.

On the other hand, I do think it's appropriate to think twice about buying cigarettes from a company that might give financial support to Jesse Helms. When making a major purchase, it wouldn't hurt to look into a company's domestic partner benefits, or lack thereof. Maybe a competitor is committed to making the world a better place for you.

I do care about buying gay-friendly things, whatever exactly that means. I think my computer is gay-friendly. Some of my clothes are. Some aren't. Some of the things I drink – beer, for example, if not juice – may be very gay-friendly, but does my beer manufacturer really approve of my sexuality or just my disposable income?

I'm not insisting that companies which advertise their products as gay-friendly and tout their freedom-fighting profits are taking anyone for a ride. I applaud them, actually. I just don't want to feel guilty because I can't afford every product lovingly designed for my lifestyle. Nor do I want to be lulled to a point of complacency where I can think charging something makes a political point stronger than "I love the free market." A rainbow flag is all I need to feel a bit more comfortable in a public establishment or strange neighborhood, but it will take a lot more than those friendly hues to persuade me how to spend my money.

Will O'Bryan writes for Just Out *in Portland, Oregon.*

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First Person / Derek Charles Livingston

Acting 'straight'

When Jack described me as "straight-acting," I bristled.

Jack was oblivious to the offensiveness of his "compliment." After all, hadn't I been among the first gay men in our group to burst into a show tune, to speak about dating men, and to wear a T-shirt with any gay reference? (Actually, the shirt read "Power Lesbian.") Despite these numerous outward gay affectations, he still had the gall to call me "straight-acting."

The insult-producing exchange went as follows:

Him: "Don't you know any nice guys you can introduce me to?"

Me: "What are you looking for?"

Him: "Some nice, young, sane, straight-acting guy."

Me: "I don't know any 'straight-acting' gay men, whatever that means."

Him: "You're straight-acting."

That's when I bristled.

"I am not straight-acting," I bellowed in a booming baritone, sounding more butch than I have in years, of course, at the most inopportune time. Jack inserted his foot further into his mouth with his self-imposed need to explain himself. Straight-acting, according to him, meant not queeny, not prissy, not fey, not limp-wristed. Not, not, not, not.

I argued that to "act gay" is to embody a host of mannerisms that are not bad in and of themselves. Still, Jack was insistent that I was straight-acting.

"I am not," I replied tersely. I have held jobs with the word "gay" in the title, I kiss and hold hands with dates in public (when they're comfortable), I've spoken at numerous public events, I don't wait to find out if someone is "cool" before using a male pronoun to refer to the object of my affection (or lust). I have put inordinate effort into being gay. I was insulted that my carriage would lead anyone, especially another gay man, to characterize me in illustrious terms as "straight-acting."

Needless to say, I experienced a range of emotions. I was disenchanted that this gay man a mere five years my junior (seemingly a generation in the gay world) could have such a limited notion of what defines male behavior; and that this would be a standard against which to derisively compare other gay men. I had hoped that we had surpassed that. It would be unfair of me to criticize his not desiring more, shall we say, gaily gregarious gay men. After all, we choose mates for myriad objective reasons (views on abortion, substance abuse, love or hate of Barbra). Nevertheless, to hold up less luminous, if you will, gay-yet-proud men as ideal and dub their carriage as "straight" denigrates these men. Moreover, it demeans those "gay-acting" men (by my friend's definition) who display great courage in simply being themselves. Thank God for the flamers, queens, prissies, swishers, and sissies. The deportment they display with such aplomb was, for many of us, the first indication that we were not the only gay boys on the planet. As much as we may have reviled them in adolescence, adult knowledge should help us revere them.

Having grown up, I look at those queeny men and think "You go, girl!" as opposed to my adolescent "Yuck." Presumably, my adulthood would have produced an essence that resounds boldly "I am gay." If I lack such a character, I would have hoped that the long hours spent volunteering or being underpaid in gay civil rights and AIDS organizing would have spared my being anointed "straight- acting."

Thank God for the flamers, queens, prissies, swishers, and sissies. The deportment they display with such aplomb, for many of us, was the first indication that we were not the only gay boys on the planet.

I am gay! I like being gay. If my voice is deep, then it is; but I don't squelch a trillish laughter if it comes. I walk as I walk (unfortunately for my knees, a little too heavy in the heels); but I am keenly aware that sometimes a runway-like sashay says more than a thousand selected words. As an actor, I am concerned that my arm movements are too restrictive, but they display fabulous freedom when a "grand diva" pose is required. Even when these stereotypical, or even prototypical, gestures are absent, I act gay and reject the notion that my mannerisms are otherwise.

Why would I want to act "straight," anyway? From childhood, the messages and images designed to produce a "straight-acting" man are rife with restrictive instructions. Prohibitions against crying. Eschewing non-sexual hugs and kisses from other men. Treating women as "ladies" (i.e., people needing my protection). Rejecting the prosaic and pastoral in nature and art. Remaining ignorant to critical (even vital) skills — cooking, sewing, cleaning, childcare. Denying physical and emotional pain ("take it like a man"). Confronting physical taunts with aggression, and verbal assaults with anger. Pretending indifference to fashion and style. Containing emotional outbursts. Guarding against weak body gestures. At every turn, being straight is rampant with limitations that damn the psyche, damage the mind, and constrict the natural effervescence of the soul. I want no part of it.

Jack was incognizant of the weight "straight-acting" carries, how absolute its definition and how limiting in its properties. In the end, we are not "straight-acting," nor are we "gay-acting." We are ultimately human.

Derek Charles Livingston was a national co-chair for the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation.

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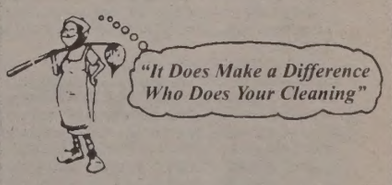

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Table 3: Number of Patients (%) With At Least One HIV Disease-Progression Event or Death

Endpoint	Current Therapy (n = 460)	EPIVIR plus Current Therapy (n = 896)	EPIVIR plus a NNRTI* plus Current Therapy (n = 460)
HIV progression or death	90 (19.6%)	86 (9.6%)	41 (8.9%)
Death	27 (5.9%)	23 (2.6%)	14 (3.0%)

*An investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor not approved in the United States.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: COMBIVIR Tablets are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the product.

WARNINGS: COMBIVIR is a fixed-dose combination of lamivudine and zidovudine. Ordinarily, COMBIVIR should not be administered concomitantly with either lamivudine or zidovudine.

The complete prescribing information for all agents being considered for use with COMBIVIR should be consulted before combination therapy with COMBIVIR is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: COMBIVIR should be used with caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1,000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease who are treated with COMBIVIR. For HIV-infected individuals and patients with asymptomatic or early HIV disease, periodic blood counts are recommended.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of antiretroviral nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including zidovudine and lamivudine. A majority of these cases have been in women. Caution should be exercised when administering COMBIVIR to any patient, and particularly to those with known risk factors for liver disease. Treatment with COMBIVIR should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or hepatotoxicity.

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis, with pathological changes similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of zidovudine and therefore may occur with therapy with COMBIVIR.

PRECAUTIONS:

General: Reduction of doses of lamivudine is recommended for patients with low body weight (less than 50 kg or 110 lb); therefore patients with low body weight should not receive COMBIVIR.

Patients With HIV and Hepatitis B Virus Coinfection: In clinical trials and postmarketing experience, some patients with HIV infection who have chronic liver disease due to hepatitis B virus infection experienced clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine. Consequences may be more severe in patients with decompensated liver disease.

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosages of lamivudine and zidovudine is recommended for patients with impaired renal function. Patients with creatinine clearance ≤50 mL/min should not receive COMBIVIR.

Information for Patients: COMBIVIR is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised that the use of COMBIVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of COMBIVIR are neutropenia and/or anemia. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced HIV disease. Patients should be advised of the importance of taking COMBIVIR as it is prescribed.

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of ganciclovir, interferon-alpha, and other bone marrow suppressive or cytotoxic agents may increase the hematologic toxicity of zidovudine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of full prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: ***Carcinogenicity:***

Lamivudine: Lamivudine long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) those observed in humans at the recommended therapeutic dose.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg per day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg per day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg per day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg per day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg per day on day 279.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five non-metastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle-dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), non-metastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately three times (mouse) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

Two transplacental carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice. One study administered zidovudine at doses of 20 mg/kg per day or 40 mg/kg per day from gestation day 10 through parturition and lactation with dosing continuing in offspring for 24 months postnatally. The doses of zidovudine employed in this study produced zidovudine exposures approximately three times the estimated human exposure at recommended doses. After 24 months, at the highest dose, an increase in incidence of vaginal tumors was noted with no increase in tumors in the liver or lung or any other organ in either gender. These findings are consistent with results of the standard oral carcinogenicity study in mice, as described earlier. A second study administered zidovudine at maximum tolerated doses of 12.5 mg/day or 25 mg/day (~1,000 mg/kg nonpregnant body weight or ~450 mg/kg of term body weight) to pregnant mice from days 12 through 18 of gestation. There was an increase in the number of tumors in the lung, liver, and female reproductive tracts in the offspring of mice receiving the higher dose level of zidovudine.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans.

Mutagenicity: Lamivudine: Lamivudine was negative in a microbial mutagenicity screen, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver. It was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK$^{+/-}$ mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK$^{+/-}$ mouse lymphoma assay, positive in an in vitro cell transformation assay, clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes, and positive in mouse and rat micronucleus tests after repeated doses. It was negative in a cytogenetic study in rats given a single dose.

Impairment of Fertility: Lamivudine: In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility (judged by conception rates) and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 7 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, had no effect on fertility judged by conception rates.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C.

COMBIVIR: There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of COMBIVIR in pregnant women. Reproduction studies with lamivudine and zidovudine have been performed in animals (see Lamivudine and Zidovudine sections below). COMBIVIR should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Lamivudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered lamivudine have been performed in rats and rabbits at 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose (based on relative body surface area) and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta.

Zidovudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered zidovudine in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg per day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryo/fetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg per day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg per day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3,000 mg/kg per day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3,683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg per day or less. Two rodent carcinogenicity studies were conducted (see Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility).

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to COMBIVIR™ Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets) and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 722-9292, ext. 39437.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

COMBIVIR: Zidovudine is excreted in breast milk (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics: Nursing Mothers section of full prescribing information); however, no data are available on COMBIVIR or lamivudine. Therefore, there is a potential for adverse effects in nursing infants. **Mothers should be instructed not to breast-feed if they are receiving COMBIVIR.**

Pediatric Use: COMBIVIR should not be administered to pediatric patients less than 12 years of age because it is a fixed-dose combination that cannot be adjusted for this patient population.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine Administered As Separate Formulations: In four randomized, controlled trials of EPIVIR 300 mg per day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day, the following selected clinical and laboratory adverse events were observed (see Tables 2 and 3).

Table 2: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (≥5% Frequency) in Four Controlled Clinical Trials With EPIVIR 300 mg/day and RETROVIR 600 mg/day

Adverse Event		EPIVIR plus RETROVIR (n = 251)
Body as a whole	Headache	35%
	Malaise & fatigue	27%
	Fever or chills	10%
Digestive	Nausea	33%
	Diarrhea	18%
	Nausea & vomiting	13%
	Anorexia and/or decreased appetite	10%
	Abdominal pain	9%
	Abdominal cramps	6%
	Dyspepsia	5%
Nervous system	Neuropathy	12%
	Insomnia & other sleep disorders	11%
	Dizziness	10%
	Depressive disorders	9%
Respiratory	Nasal signs & symptoms	20%
	Cough	18%
Skin	Skin rashes	9%
Musculoskeletal	Musculoskeletal pain	12%
	Myalgia	8%
	Arthralgia	5%

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received EPIVIR in controlled clinical trials. Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in Four Controlled Clinical Trials of EPIVIR 300 mg/day plus RETROVIR 600 mg/day*

Test (Abnormal Level)	EPIVIR plus RETROVIR % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm³)	7.2% (237)
Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL)	2.9% (241)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm³)	0.4% (240)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	3.7% (241)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	1.7% (241)
Bilirubin (>2.5 x ULN)	0.8% (241)
Amylase (>2.0 x ULN)	4.2% (72)

ULN = Upper limit of normal.
ANC = Absolute neutrophil count.
n = Number of patients assessed.
*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Observed During Clinical Practice: The following events have been identified during post-approval use of EPIVIR and/or RETROVIR. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to their seriousness, frequency of reporting, causal connection to EPIVIR and/or RETROVIR, or a combination of these factors.

Alopecia, erythema multiforme, hyperglycemia, lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), pancreatitis, seizures, sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), Stevens-Johnson syndrome, urticaria, and vasculitis.

OVERDOSAGE:

COMBIVIR: There is no known antidote for COMBIVIR.

Lamivudine: One case of an adult ingesting 6 grams of lamivudine was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

Zidovudine: Acute overdoses of zidovudine have been reported in pediatric patients and adults. These involved exposures up to 50 grams. The only consistent findings were nausea and vomiting. Other reported occurrences included headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, confusion, and one report of a grand mal seizure. Hematologic changes were transient. All patients recovered. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, 3′-azido-3′-deoxy-5′-*O*-β-*D*-glucopyranuronosylthymidine (GZDV), is enhanced.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: The recommended oral dose of COMBIVIR for adults and adolescents (at least 12 years of age) is one tablet (containing 150 mg of lamivudine and 300 mg of zidovudine) twice daily.

Dose Adjustment: Because it is a fixed-dose combination, COMBIVIR should not be prescribed for patients requiring dosage adjustment such as those with reduced renal function (creatinine clearance ≤50 mL/min), those with low body weight (<50 kg or 110 lb), or those experiencing dose-limiting adverse events.

U.S. Patent Nos. 5,047,407; 4,818,538; 4,828,838; 4,724,232; 4,833,130; and 4,837,208

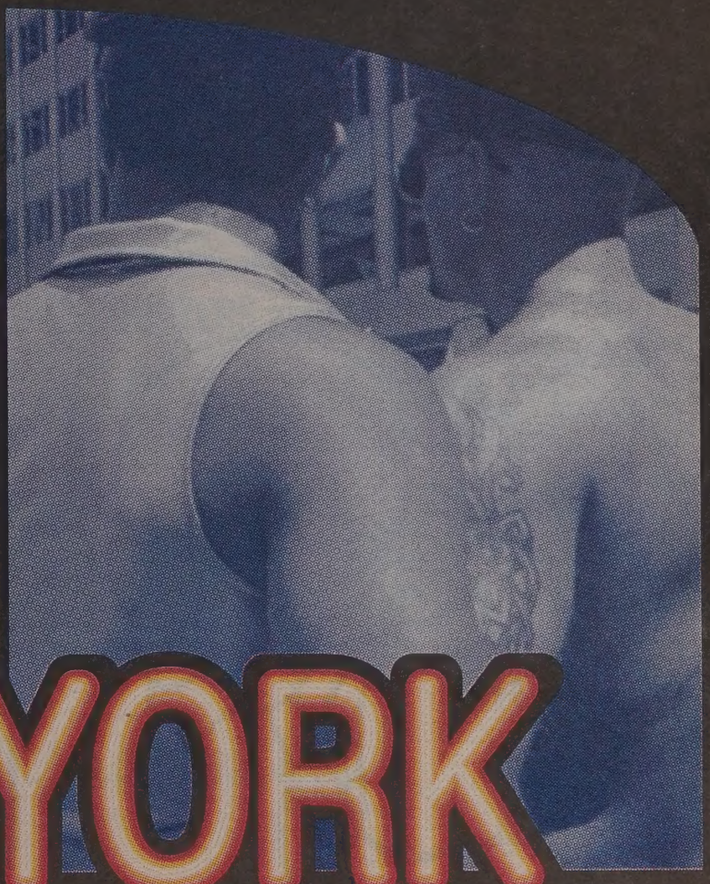
GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Reference: 1. Hammer SM, Squires KE, Hughes MD, et al. A controlled trial of two nucleoside analogues plus indinavir in persons with human immunodeficiency virus infection and CD4 cell counts of 200 per cubic millimeter or less. *N Engl J Med.* 1997;337:725-733.

Lamivudine is manufactured under agreement from Biochem Pharma Inc.
Laval, Quebec, Canada

September 1997/RL-466



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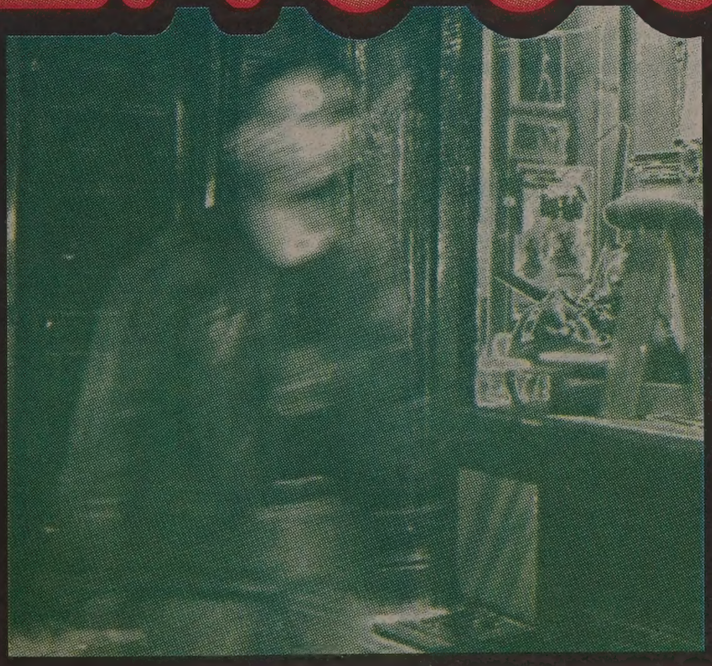

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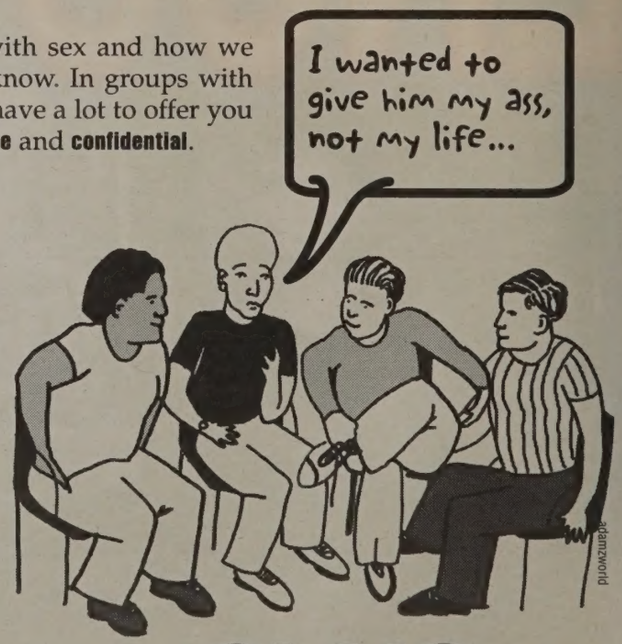

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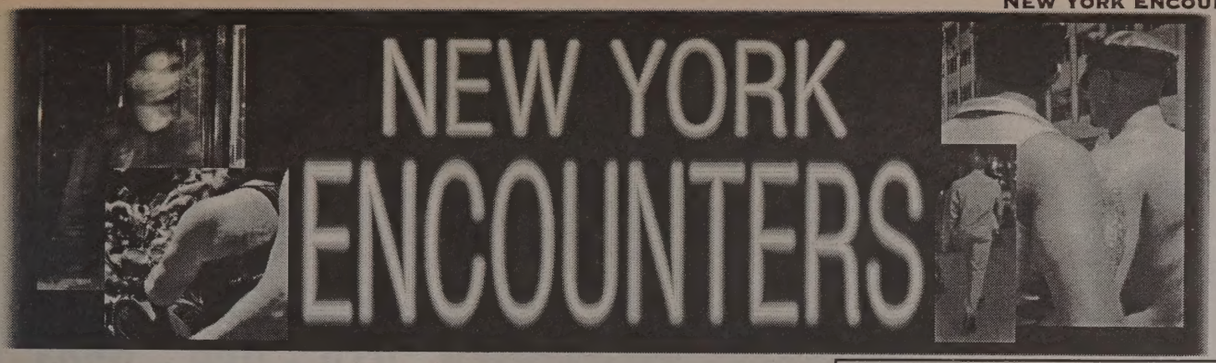

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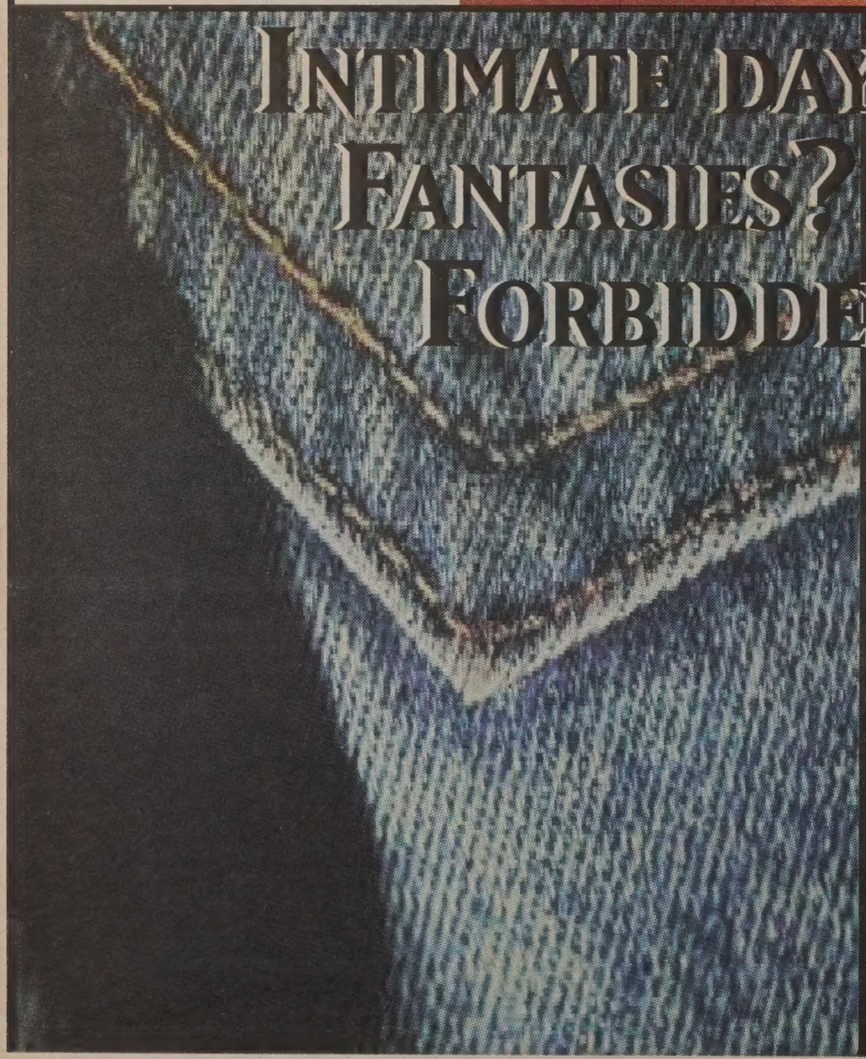

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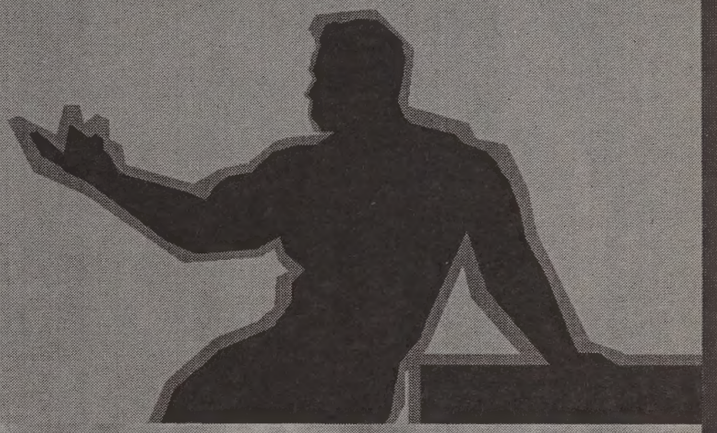

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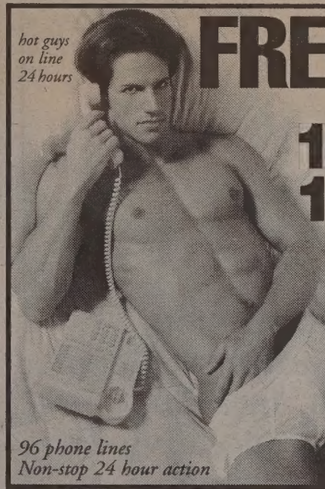

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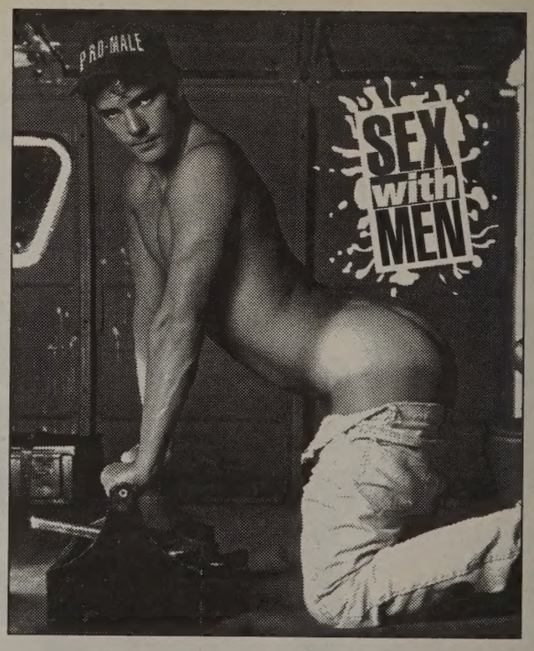

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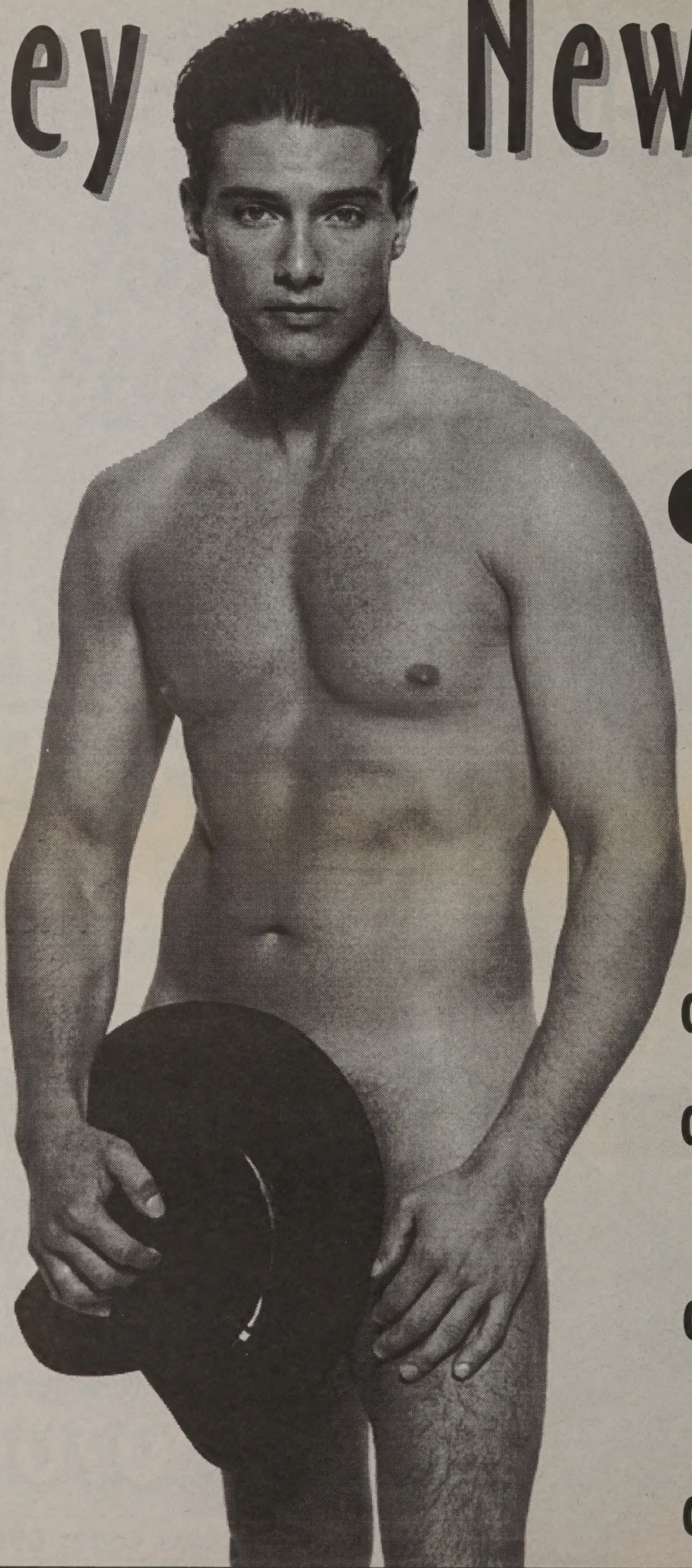

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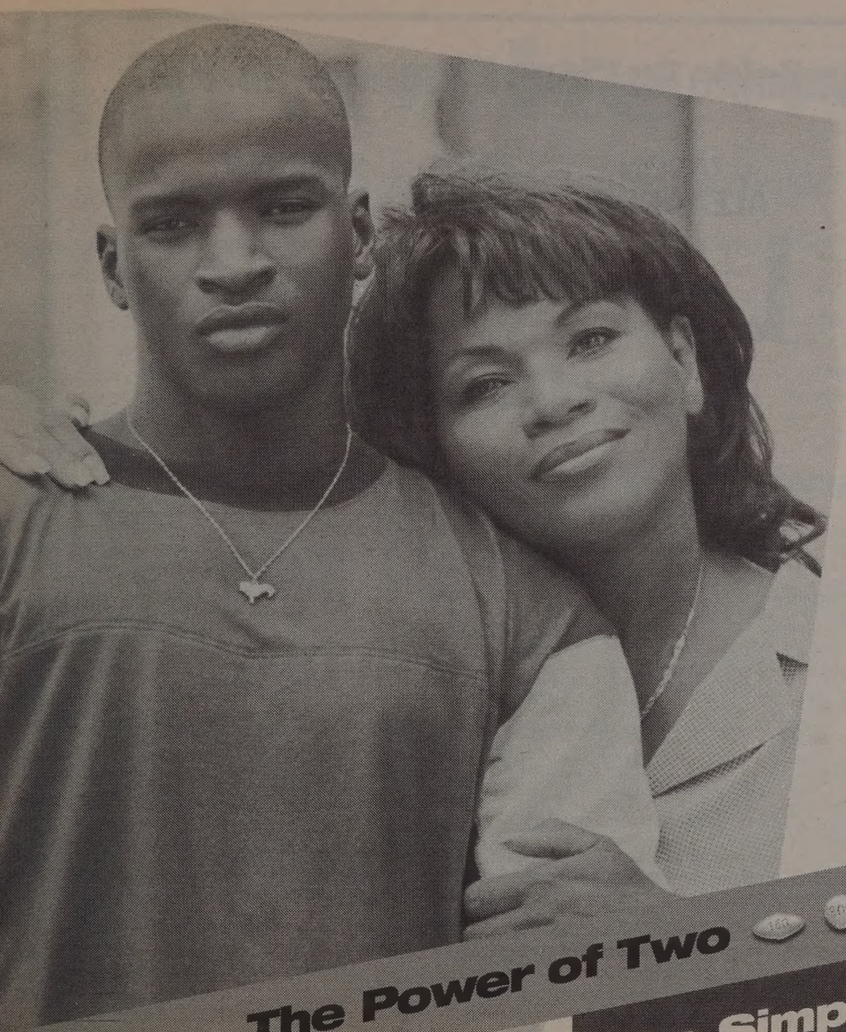

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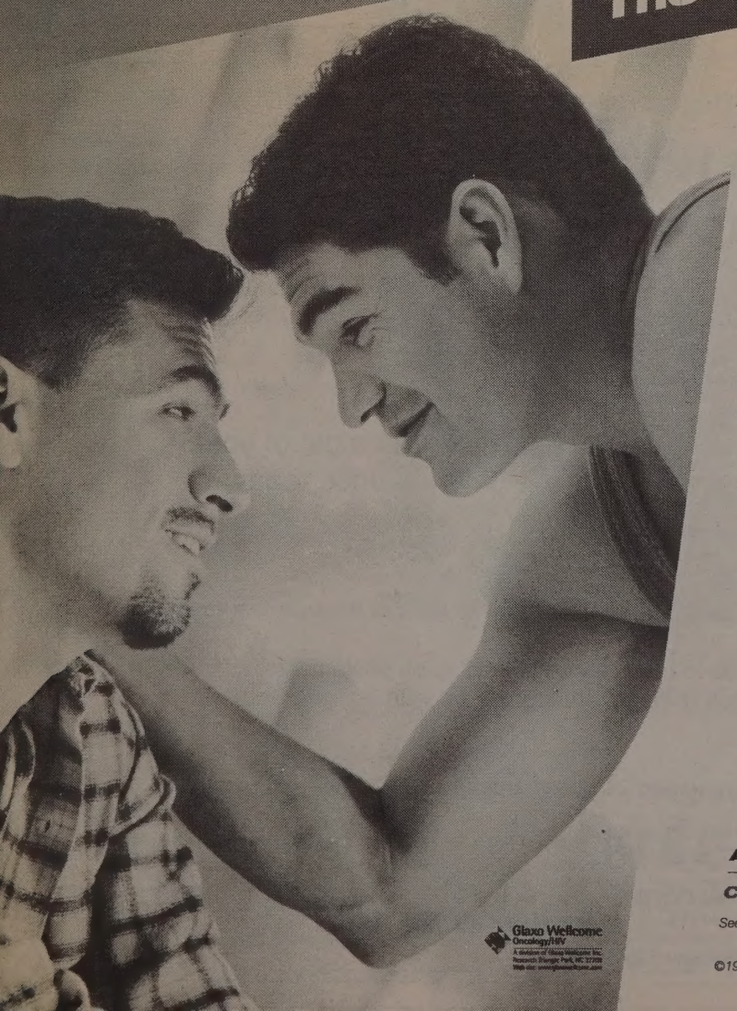

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Joi to the world

Singer Joi Cardwell shakes up the music industry

BY JEFFREY L. NEWMAN

Joi Cardwell clearly likes contrasts. At Vinyl, one of Manhattan's hottest dance clubs, she ignites the mostly gay crowd with her powerhouse vocals. At the Cooler, a West Village club known for its cutting edge performers, she captivates the standing-room-only crowd with an emotion-filled jazz set.

A savvy performer gaining a stronghold in the male-dominated music industry, this singer/songwriter brings together widely disparate types of music — jazz, R&B, disco, pop — into an elegant whole.

"When I write a song, I don't write it in a particular style," Cardwell says. "I write it as I hear it. Most of the time it's not written as a dance song, it's R&B or jazz. Then it's remixed afterwards."

Whatever style of music she's performing, Cardwell's voice is clear and powerful, and the same holds true when she's just talking. The New York-based singer/songwriter makes no bones about being gay, something she's never tried to hide. Out since she was 21, Cardwell says she's never thought about compromising herself to achieve commercial success. To Cardwell, being a lesbian is just part of her life, along with being African-American and Latina.

"I don't go around telling everybody I'm gay," she says. "It's not something I advertise wherever I go, but if someone asks I am more than happy to tell them. I'm very proud of being gay."

In fact, Cardwell wrote one of the tracks on her new self-titled album, "Found Love," about her girlfriend of three years.

"It's never been a factor," she says. "It's who I am. There's no reason for me not to be out. If I'm going to be discriminated against, it's going to happen – whether it's because I'm black, gay, Latin, or a woman. I've never thought about not being out."

The singer, who says her sexuality has never held her back professionally, says the reason she feels so strongly about being out is because she wants to show the younger generation that it's O.K. to be who they are.

"Children never see people who are out in this industry," Cardwell says. "I think it's important to show diversity and individuality, especially to minority children, who say, 'What about me? Who's like me?' There is no one else out there to represent them. I think it's important to show that not every lesbian singer is a white folk singer. For many of these kids, they think that black and Latina lesbians don't exist in the industry, and obviously they do."

Childhood is an important time, Cardwell knows, because that's when she first started singing. The New York City native realized her musical calling at age five, when her school class performed a segment of "The Three Blind Mice" at Carnegie Hall.

At 18, she entered amateur night at Harlem's Apollo Theatre, where she won five awards. Her big break seemed within reach, but it wasn't quite as easy as it seemed. In 1989, after graduating New York University, she was selected by R&B producer Kashif to be part of an all-female group called the Promise. After two years of turmoil, the group's album still hadn't seen the light of day. Cardwell quit the group and headed solo.

In 1992, she achieved a taste of success when she did vocals on the Li'l Louis-produced dance tracks "Club Lonely" and "Saved My Life." She followed that with backup singing for recording artists L.L. Cool J., Jermaine Jackson, and the Pointer Sisters, but she hadn't yet made a name for herself.

With her career stuck in neutral, Cardwell took matters into her own hands. In 1994, she negotiated a contract with New York independent label Eightball Records and recorded, produced, and wrote her first full-length album, *The World Is Full Of Trouble*. That debut spawned two Top 15 Billboard club hits, "Trouble" and "You Got To Pray."

While that album was a blend of mellow cuts with a few dance tunes tossed in, Cardwell gained more attention from the dance remixes that followed. Now audiences all over the world immediately recognize the singer with the four-and-a-half octave range.

Three years later, Cardwell feels she is finally on her way to success with her new album. Her current ambition is to continue moving into the mainstream.

With sheer determination, Cardwell intends to bridge the gap between different audiences with her eclectic music.

"I've always been an individual. I've never wanted to be one of the flock," she says. "My grandmother always said she saw a strength in me, that I walked my own path."

Joi Cardwell wants to show fans that not every lesbian musician is a folk singer.

A diva by any other name

Joi Cardwell is perhaps the first out lesbian dance diva to make gay men shake their booties at clubs across New York. Now, with her new self-titled album of club songs and R&B grooves (Eightball Records), Cardwell has packed in enough hard-hitting songs with strong vocals, haunting melodies, and fierce rhythms to secure her status as more than just another one-hit wonder.

While an outstanding club track doesn't need a chorus or even a melody, Caldwell knows that solid songwriting remains important. That's why she writes and produces much of her own material. "Run To You," whether mellowed to a slow groove or in its harder house incarnation, comes through as a well-crafted song. Steaming up the dance floors lately is her "Soul To Bare," a track that features her immediately recognizable vocals. "You Got To Pray" is another heavenly club anthem, while "Stop and Think" will play well in all those laid-back lounges that keep cropping up around town. Lyrically, the strongest tune is "Power," in which Cardwell pleads for "a little bit of power for my people." This time it's certain she is including gay people in the equation. She proceeds with a request for "jobs, education, cash, a house over my head, some shoes, jackets, blankets, and some bedding"— a list of necessities worth dancing to.

Despite Cardwell's disdain for being called a diva (she has complained that "diva" is another way of saying "bitch"), she earns that title. Not only does she possess, like other divas before her, powerhouse vocals and a strong female presence, but she also insists that people listen to what she has to say. The world needs divas like her.

—ARI GOLD

Hot flashes

Peggy Shaw weathers menopause

BY KATE WALTER

It's hard to be a gentleman when you're soaked in sweat, and Peggy Shaw has been sweating a lot lately. She's having hot flashes.

In her new one-woman show, *Menopausal Gentleman*, Shaw appears in a double-breasted suit with a white pocket handkerchief, which comes in handy for mopping her brow as she delivers a snappy stream-of-consciousness rant about being butch and going through her change of life.

"I'm a 53-year-old woman who passes for a 35-year-old man who likes the ladies. I keep young by passing," she declares in the show. "I was born a gentleman, so butch I don't have to talk about it. It speaks for itself. I sacrificed being a woman for youth. A woman passing as a man looks like a younger man. A man passing as a woman looks like an older woman."

During *Menopausal Gentleman*, Shaw lets the audience in on how she straps down her breasts, but it's not just for the theatrical effect. In real life, too, Shaw often passes as a man.

"I never pretend to be a man, even though I pass as one," she says. "People choose to see me that way. The strapping down is very compelling. I did it for a while when I was young. In San Francisco, there's a world of passing women coming out, women who go to their jobs dressed like men. I am dealing with that part of me that loves drag and wants to look good in a suit."

But as Shaw explains, it's hard to pass for a man of any age with all those beastly hormones raging inside. Waking up every night at four in the morning and sleeping alone because her bed is soaked with sweat has driven her crazy. She's turned into a grandmotherly gentleman, baring her aging soul on stage.

"With menopause, there is so much rich material," says Shaw. "Most women I talk to said their mothers got a divorce, had a breakdown, or became alcoholics from going through this huge change and not having anyone to talk to."

Shaw says menopause might be more difficult for lesbian couples, especially if both women are going through it at the same time.

"Menopause is interesting for lesbian couples," says Shaw. "I'm sure a lot of relationships don't make it because both women are going through menopause and you don't have anyone to balance you. When you're sharing space, someone has to go along with you and see you change in front of their eyes. It is called 'the change,' after all."

The Obie award-winning performer is best known for her work with Split Britches, a renowned lesbian theater company, and at W.O.W. Cafe, a lesbian performance space in the East Village. Shaw and her partner, Lois Weaver, founded both in 1980. Through these avenues, they found the freedom to write about issues important to them.

Although she and Weaver are still lovers, Shaw said they have had an open relationship for years. Shaw is currently involved with Rebecca Taichman, director of *Menopausal Gentleman*. They met when Taichman directed Shaw in *The Slow Drag*.

"I'm used to working with someone I'm lovers with," Shaw says with a throaty laugh.

Peggy Shaw knows menopause is particularly difficult for lesbian couples, but th doesn't mean she can't crack jokes about it.

"I don't know the difference between theater and reality. I don't have any boundaries. I don't have any secrets. Theater is a way for me to talk about things that are not talked about."

Menopause isn't the easiest subject to address — especially for a passing butch — but Shaw figures if she had to deal with it off-stage, she might as well deal with it in front of an audience.

"I didn't really start out to write a show about menopause," Shaw says of *Menopausal Gentleman*. "I've been doing my own form of theater for the pa 25 years and it starts with the truth ar whatever is going on in my life at th time."

Menopausal Gentleman is now showi at Dixon Place, located at 258 Bowe between Houston and Prince. Performanc are Thursdays through Saturdays at p.m., and Sundays at 7 p.m., through No 23. Tickets are $10, and can be purchase by calling (212) 219-3088.

Openly gay countertenor David Daniels is one of the only performers not in drag in *Xerxes*.

Operatic drag

Xerxes plays with gender in City Opera production

BY JOSEPH MILLER

Men pretend to be women, women pretend to be men, and audiences love it. One of the great cross-dressing operas, Handel's *Xerxes* has taken center stage at the State Theater in the New York City Opera's lively new English-language production by Stephen Wadsworth.

The main characters are Xerxes, a king — sung by a female mezzo-soprano, Lorraine Hunt – and the king's brother Arsamene, also a soprano role, sung by the male countertenor David Daniels. Xerxes and Arsamene are both in love with perky female soprano Romilda, but she loves only Arsamene. Xerxes, a cad, is being unfaithful to his intended, a foreign princess, Amastre, who shows up in men's clothes to spy on the situation and remains in men's clothes throughout the opera, even at the end, when she is reconciled to her estranged fiancé.

To add to the romp, Arsamene has a manservant, Elviro, who, in order to deliver a message to his master's beloved, dresses as a flower girl and makes a full routine about the woes of drag.

Some of the cross-dressing in baroque operas is inherent in the plots, which usually involve intrigues of disguise and mistaken identity. It also comes from the fact that the leading male characters were originally taken by castrati, boy sopranos who became men sopranos through the dark mysteries of surgery. For better or worse, there are no castrati today, and in order to pe form these operas the roles are transposed down become tenor or baritone roles, or they are sung in the original keys by women and countertenors.

Daniels, the star countertenor of the moment, offe a pleasing contrast to Hunt, a versatile and brilliant sta While Daniels' voice is neither as large nor as expre sive as hers, his different timbre and very masculin appearance underscore the rivalry between the arde younger brother and the rather fey and flippant kin Daniels' costume seems to be built around his hairy che – his shirt is always open — to forestall any jokes stere typing men who sing so high. (Offstage, too, Danie confounds stereotypes. Coming out as gay in this week *New Yorker*, Daniels admits other loves less often ass ciated with opera singers: beer and basketball.)

Good diction on the part of most of the singers ar a clear English text make the supertitles largely supe fluous, since the opera is no harder to follow than a Broa way show. *Xerxes* is an accessible opera about real cha acters with vivid and tender feelings, a mixture of co edy, romance, and bluster. And a lot of gender bendin

Xerxes has its final, sold-out performance of the se son at a 1:30 matinee on Sunday, Nov. 16. The State Th ater is located at Lincoln Center, W. 62nd Street Broadway. To check for last-minute available ticket contact the State Theater box office at (212) 870-557

No yellow brick road

Bugis Street shows a tough route to womanhood

BY WAYNE HOFFMAN

Hiep Thi Le (center) comes of age in Singapore's red light district in *Bugis Street*.

Sometimes the road to adulthood runs through a seedy section of town.

In *Bugis Street*, the first film released in three decades from Singapore's long-dormant movie industry, even fake jewels and shiny coins can't turn one girl's squalid path to maturity into a yellow brick road. Vietnamese-American actor Hiep Thi Le, star of *Heaven and Earth*, plays Lien, a teenage girl from a rural village who moves to Singapore in the 1960s to work as a maid in the Sin Sin Hotel. The aptly named establishment, a bordello in Singapore's red light district, houses transvestite and transsexual prostitutes.

The hotel soon becomes Lien's home as well. The other residents share their secrets – sexual secrets, emotional secrets, beauty secrets – and open up Lien's eyes to entire worlds she never knew existed. Men love men, women love women, and many people seek love in between the genders at the Sin Sin Hotel. Confused and scared, but observant and astute, Lien blossoms on Bugis Street in a touching coming-of-age story notable for its awkward authenticity.

The prostitutes come across as neither tragic figures nor campy comedians in *Bugis Street*. They have varying reasons for choosing their line of work – although they don't appear to turn enough tricks to pay their hotel bills – ranging from love to fear, adventure to desperation. They neither try to convince Lien to join their ranks nor push her away, but instead explain the options and let her decide.

Bugis Street successfully avoids the most frequent pitfalls of most American films that deal with prostitution. While several of the prostitutes are kind to Lien, none truly has a heart of gold; all of them have human flaws, and even the most noble – Lien included – have bad days. And in bringing Lien into a transgendered world, the directors have avoided making one vision of womanhood more "real" than the other. In the end, Lien does not see herself as a true woman with nothing to learn from her friends who admit to being "a little fake." Nor does the film teach that it takes cross-dressers and transsexuals to show a girl how to be a real woman, in *To Wong Foo* fashion. Instead, the Sin Sin Hotel's residents show Lien that there are many ways to be a woman, each with certain styles, mindsets, ambitions, appearances, and advantages. They are generous enough to offer Lien advice, and Lien is ultimately mature enough to reach her own conclusions.

For all its good intentions, however, *Bugis Street* sometimes falls short. Its gritty settings seem too clean, its camp too subtle. The acting – particularly in supporting roles – is sometimes wooden. A language barrier, though minor, doesn't help: a zippy one-liner depends on perfect timing and proper emphasis, and a literal translation isn't enough to give a punchline full effect. More problematic, the plot tends to drift from one minor crisis to another, rather than building in intensity to a climax. This wandering, which includes a few dead-ends, eventually saps the story's energy. Fortunately, the warmth and vitality of Lien's journey is enough to carry audiences to the end of *Bugis Street*.

Bugis Street *is now playing at Village East Cinemas, located at E. 12th Street and 2nd Avenue.*

Four young women can't quite make beautiful music together in *Slaves to the Underground*.

Slaves and slackers

Film features familiar Generation X angst

BY KATIE SZYMANSKI

With grit, girls, and guitars, *Slaves to the Underground* seeks to define the slacker generation, but comes a little too late. Four years ago it might have seemed fresher; now it just rehashes the starving artist angst that's become so familiar.

Shelly (Molly Gross) and Suzy (Marisa Ryan), lovers and members of an all-girl punk band in Seattle, want to make a difference. Shelly wants to make music, but Suzy is intent on pursuing "the cause" — a somewhat undefined pro-woman mission — however she can.

Within the film's first 20 minutes, Suzy beats up a guy, her female posse rids a convenience store of its female pornography, and Suzy and Shelly make passionate, artistic love all over the house. It's one of the most explicit lesbian sex scenes a feature film has ever dared to show. From the perspective of a cheering lesbian audience, what could possibly go wrong?

Then the guys show up. Jimmy (Jason Bortz) and Brian (James Garver), roommates and publishers of their own magazines, will do anything to get their message (life-impacting criticism of talk shows) out into the world. As it turns out, Jimmy and Shelly used to be involved. When their paths accidentally cross, a confused and indifferent Shelly decides to rekindle the flame. While this is a somewhat disturbing choice – Jimmy isn't the type who could normally lure a woman away from other women — the film portrays the differences between lesbian and straight sex quite dramatically. Through camera angles, music choices, and editing, the film gives viewers a vivid contrast between Shelly and Suzy's sculpted movements and Shelly and Jimmy's abrasive thrusts.

"All I can smell is man-stink on you," Suzy says to Shelly, before throwing her out of the house and out of the band.

In the end, *Slaves* isn't about anyone's sexuality, but about what they're suppressing. Jimmy simply can't survive under the premise that poverty will make him genuine. Shelly wants "music for the sake of music," but Suzy finds it's just "a means to an end." Suzy's politics stifles Shelly's creativity. The desire to make a difference does not necessarily unite people — in fact, it can come between the closest friends.

Voyeuristic in nature, *Slaves to the Underground* won't change any woman's life, but it might mirror parts of it. It still speaks to a generation of young people, even if it is a few years too late to be revolutionary.

Slaves to the Underground *opens on Nov. 14 at the Quad, located at 34 W. 13th St.*

Glitter and be gay

Series documents Leonard Bernstein's musical legacy

BY ROBERT HILFERTY

The Bernstein Century, a remarkable collection of recordings that document Leonard Bernstein's legacy as conductor and composer, will take listeners back through the years of his best recordings. The ongoing series, by Sony Classical, demonstrates the late composer's mastery of music from symphonies to standards, classical to pop.

Personally, the series takes me back to the years of my adolescence, when I had the honor of meeting Leonard Bernstein in person. About 20 years ago, after hearing rumors that Bernstein was gay, I decided to find out for myself first-hand. I was in high school and had more than merely musical inclinations. Not that I was consciously looking for a gay role model at the time, but Bernstein — who had composed my favorite musical (*West Side Story*), who could conduct Mahler like a whirling dervish, and who read everything from Shakespeare to Mailer — seemed like a good bet.

Leonard Bernstein's music survives on 16 new compact discs, part of an ongoing series.

So I made sure to hear the 1977 premiere of John Corigliano's Clarinet Concerto, which Bernstein was conducting at Avery Fisher Hall. After the performance, I headed for the green room, where Bernstein was sitting with his shirt open, smoking a cigarette and receiving people. He put his arms around one man and said, "Do you still do the cute things you used to do in San Francisco?" Both of them giggled, and Bernstein planted a kiss on his mouth. Bingo. The cat was officially out of the bag.

Now it was my turn. I asked him to sign his *Music for Theater* album. Then I asked, "What does the oboe represent in your *Mass*?"

"It represents the Holy Spirit," he said.

I got bold. "I think the oboe represents uncertainty," I said. "It's always reaching, always posing unanswerable questions."

Bernstein smiled and gave me a big sweaty hug. He then invited me to look at Corigliano's complex score. As I was leafing through the pages, I kept repeating to myself, "Leonard Bernstein is gay." Then, like a mantra, "I'm gay." His song "Glitter and Be Gay" took on a whole new meaning.

Although Corigliano's Clarinet Concerto is not included in the newly released set of *Bernstein Century* CDs, the *Mass* is. Bernstein recasts the centuries-old religious form, dragging it, kicking and screaming, into the uncomfortable uncertainties of the 20th century. *Mass* (commissioned by Jackie Onassis for the inauguration of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.) is a monumental theatrical vehicle that grapples with the contemporary crisis in faith. From the opening dissonant jumble of kyrie, it's a bumpy ride.

The rambunctious score interweaves the sacred Latin text with English lyrics like "Half the people are stoned and the other half are waiting for the next election," and swerves from modernist discord to Broadway bravado to jazzy rock and back again with ease. It's a masterpiece of '70s kitsch — with moments both genuinely moving and utterly awful. There will never be anything like it again.

Bernstein's bona fide masterpiece, *West Side Story*, is included here in the form of symphonic dances, along with his witty *Candide* Overture and his dynamic score to the movie *On the Waterfront*. Of his ballet scores for Jerome Robbins, the wistful *Fancy Free* and the rarely heard *Dybbuk*, based on the Jewish folk tale, are both included in Sony's series.

The collection also includes the work of other gay American composers Samuel Barber (whose Adagio for Strings and Violin Concerto are classics) and Aaron Copland (who created quintessential American sounds with his *Appalachian Spring*, *Rodeo*, *Billy the Kid*, and *Fanfare for the Common Man*). There's no better rendition of Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* or *An American in Paris*, and Bernstein's vigorous interpretations of two of William Schuman's symphonies will keep toes tapping. *Time Cycle*, by Foss, will appeal to those who yearn for something less traditional and more experimental.

Bernstein spent a good deal of effort putting Gustav Mahler back on the map. It is therefore fitting that this collection includes his magnificent recording of Mahler's schmaltzy Symphony No. 2 (*Resurrection*), as well as the great Symphony No. 5. Gustav Holst's *The Planets* spins beautifully in its orbit, too. As far as old concert-hall warhorses are concerned, Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 4 and 5, and Piano Concertos Nos. 3 and 5 are included in this extensive series.

The collection also includes Bizet's *Carmen* Suites, a telling choice. When Bernstein was 16 in summer music camp, he performed *Carmen* in drag — an early sign of greatness for sure. The teenage years can be critical in developing a musical and sexual identity, as Bernstein knew, and I later found out.

David Bowie's *Deram Anthology* covers the period before he hit it big with "Space Oddity."

New old Bowie

Latest release features singer's early material from the gay '60s

Most David Bowie collections begin with his breakthrough single "Space Oddity." *The Deram Anthology 1966-1968*, recently released by Deram, Bowie's label in those years, ends with it.

The years 1966-1968 mark the period when Bowie claims to have done much of his experimentation with homosexuality. In the swinging London of the late 1960s, a "pretty boy" like Bowie could sample a variety of sexual practices and partners. For example, in 1967 Bowie had an affair with noted gay choreographer Lindsay Kemp, whose jealous fits and suicide attempts made for an extremely rocky relationship. In his better moments, though, Kemp mentored Bowie in the art of stage performance. Much of Bowie's celebrated '70s theatricality comes directly from Kemp's influence in the '60s.

Bowie's music from this period, chronicled in the *Anthology*, comes across as highly theatrical, but rarely does it approach avant-garde. In addition, the gay touches in the lyrics themselves are, ironically, harder to find than in Bowie's lyrics of the early '70s, when he was married to a woman and making public statements about his bisexuality.

Bowie hits his gayest notes in "The London Boys," one of the earliest and best songs on the CD. In this moody, organ-backed track, Bowie explores the life of a young mod who has just moved to London. "Now you wish you'd never left your home," Bowie sings. "You got what you wanted, but you're on your own." Bowie's 1966 reflections on gay urban loneliness still ring true in any number of cities.

Bowie's 1967 self-titled debut album contributes most of the tracks on this collection. Some of the best songs also indicate things to come. "We Are Hungry Men," which tells of messiahs, apocalypse, and cannibalism, foreshadows the later "Diamond Dogs." "She's Got Medals," with its crunching chords and its teasing androgyny, prefigures Bowie's popular Ziggy Stardust period.

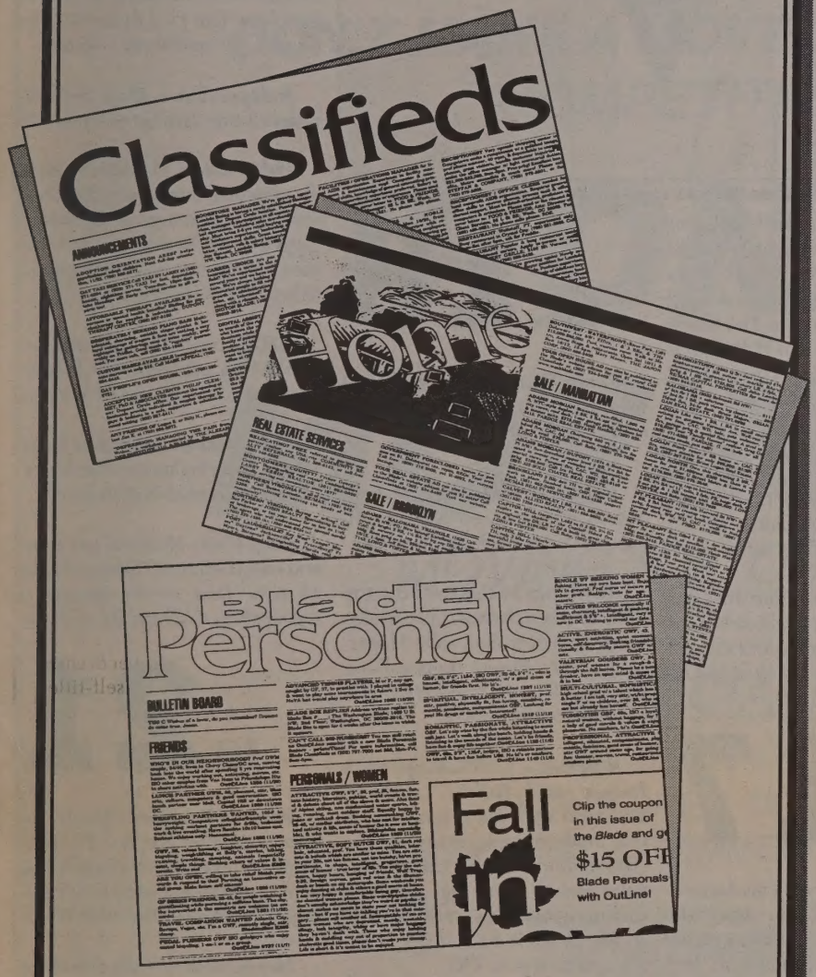
Other songs take his deliberately tacky aesthetic and, by pushing its limits, make it work. "When I Live My Dream" goes joyously over the top, reaching a simultaneous climax of passion and camp with the line, "Tell them I'm a dreaming kind of guy!" In "Please Mr. Gravedigger," by contrast, the whimsy turns morbid, with chilling effect.

Most of the remaining songs on *Anthology* seek to distance themselves from the electric sounds of the first album. "In the Heat of the Morning," with its lush Motown overtones, succeeds best.

Finally, inevitably, comes "Space Oddity" in its original, orchestra-free version. Here, at the cusp of the Deram years, the Bowie the world has since come to know is about to arrive.

–JONATHAN WARMAN

3 Great Sections....



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on the air

BY HEATHER CALOMESE

While it is unlikely that "Xena Studies" will be offered as an undergraduate major any time soon, the show's sexual ambiguity is garnering the attention of a few academics.

A new website called the "Journal of the International Association of Xena Studies" provides fertile grounds for speculation about the relationship between Xena and her protégé, Gabrielle. The website features academic articles, including one by Sherri Johnson entitled "Xena and Gabrielle: A Revisitation of the Classic Romantic Friendship."

In her essay, Johnson argues that the friendship between Xena and Gabrielle is a postmodern riff on the Victorian friendships between women that involved hand-holding, kissing, and mutual caressing. Johnson believes that Xena might help society "throw off the shackles of our 'modern' and 'liberated' view of relationships, which do not allow two people of the same sex to express their affection physically."

The journal is located at http://www.thirdstory.com/whoosh.

•••

CBS' *Chicago Hope* recently joined the roster of programs with gay characters. In the Nov. 5 episode of the popular program, Dr. Dennis Hancock (Vondie Curtis Hall of *Romeo and Juliet*) came out to Dr. Aaron Shutt (Adam Arkin) while performing surgery.

In the closing scenes, Hancock says, "I'm a guy who does charity work, restores antique cars, jogs 10 miles a day, and I'm gay." When Shutt expresses surprise, Hancock adds, "I got something else to tell you. I'm black."

•••

On this week's episode of *Ellen*, Oscar-winner Emma Thompson is a star who isn't quite ready to come out of the closet because it might reveal an even bigger secret. Ellen, who has taken as job as her personal assistant, urges her to take the plunge. It didn't hurt Ellen's career, did it?

sat. 15

Independence Day: Harvey Fierstein does his best to ape screaming mimi Janet Leigh in this alien flick. There are some really cool scenes of the White House being leveled, too. (2 hrs. 25 min.) *HBO at 8 a.m.* **CC**

Absolutely Fabulous: Edina does not want to give up drinking. (40 min.) *Comedy Central at 4 p.m, 4:40 p.m. and 5:20 p.m.*

Real World: Elka's boyfriend visits from out of town. In the second episode, the gang – including young lesbian Genesis — meets L.L. Cool J in Philadelphia. (1 hr.) *MTV at 8 and 8:30 p.m.* **CC.**

One Night Stand: Ellen DeGeneres does the stand-up routine that landed her on the map. (30 min.) *Comedy Central at 8:30 p.m.*

Xena: Warrior Princess: The conclusion to last week's episode. Xena's flashback reveals that she has gone from evil to good. Xena must now fight her way past the "Green Dragon." (1 hr.) *WPIX (WB) at 9 p.m.* **CC**

Mad TV: This foul-but-hip sketch comedy show contains stereotypical gay skits and lots of Ellen and k.d. lang jokes. (1 hr.) *WNYW (Fox) at 11 p.m.* **CC**

RuPaul: Variety show starring the queen of all media. Mondays through Saturdays. (30 min.) *VH1 at 11 p.m.*

sun. 16

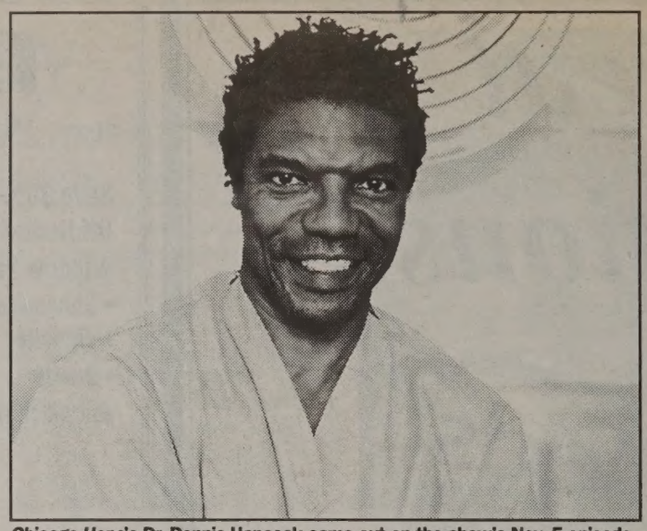
Real World Marathon: Twenty-two non-stop episodes that include at least one gay or bisexual character. (11 hrs.) *MTV at 1 a.m.* **CC**

Steel Magnolias: Southern belles muse about the link between gay men and track lighting in this tear-jerking story. (2 hrs. 30 min) *WTBS at 10:35 p.m.*

Xena: Warrior Princess: Here she is again. Lucy Lawless keeps the masses excited in this fantasy/adventure. (1 hr.) *WTIC (FOX) at 11 a.m. and WPIX (WB) at 2 p.m. (Repeat)* **CC**

Out-FM: Features news, interviews, and discussion of issues relevant to the gay community. *WBAI 99.5 FM at 6:30 p.m.*

Storytellers: Lesbian singer and mother Melissa Etheridge performs. (1 hr.) *VH1 at 10 p.m.*



Chicago Hope's Dr. Dennis Hancock came out on the show's Nov. 5 episode.

Jacqeuline Susann's Valley of the Dolls: A camp film of the highest (or lowest) order. Neely O'Hara (Patty Duke) is an ambitious star and unrepentant pill popper. Her standoff with Helen (Susan Hayward) is not to be missed. (2 hrs. 5 min.) *AMC at 3:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m.*

Blazing Saddles: Another Mel Brooks western. This time he pokes fun at a gay chorus line and their clash with cowhands. (1hr. 50 min.) *ABC at 11:35 p.m.*

Hedda Lettuce: The drag star comes out of the nightclubs and into your living room. And she still looks perfect. *Channel 69 at 12 a.m.*

mon. 17

All My Children: This daytime soap features Kevin Sheffield (Ben Jorgensen) who fights with his mother over his sexuality. (1 hr.) *ABC weekdays at 1 p.m.* **CC**

Soap: Billy Crystal plays gay man Jodie Dallas in this groundbreaking, side-splitting sitcom. (30 min.) *Comedy Central weekdays at 2 p.m.* **CC**

Married...with Children: Lesbian Amanda Bearse plays Marcy in this sometimes tasteless sitcom. Back-to-back episodes daily. (1 hr.) *WWOR (UPN) at 6 and 6:30 p.m. weeknights.* **CC**

Ally McBeal: Sandra Bernhard guest stars once again. In this episode, Ally tells a dirty joke to shed her "pure" image. *WNYW (Fox) at 9 p.m.* **CC**

Lesbian and Gay Center: Call-in show. *Channel 17 at 6:30 p.m.*

Legends: profile of the openly gay entertainer Elton John. *VH1 at 9 p.m.*

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: Features male strippers direct from your favorite gay videos. *Channel 35 at 10:30 p.m.*

tue. 18

Xena: Warrior Princess: See Monday listing. (1 hr.) *WTIC (FOX) at 12:30 a.m.* **CC**

Today: Gay fashion designer Isaac Mizrahi is interviewed by the morning crew. (2hrs.) *NBC at 7 a.m.* **CC**

Airplane: In this over the top film, Stephen Strucker plays a fey air traffic controller. Julie Hagerty also stars. Please, don't call her Shirley. (1 hr. 30 min.) *HBO at 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.* **CC**

William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet: Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes star in this modern rock version of the classic. Romeo's best friend Mercutio shows some leg and does some drag as well in one of the best scenes of the movie. (2 hrs.) *Cinemax at 2:30 p.m.* **CC**

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: See Monday listing. *Channel 35 at 11:30 p.m.*

wed. 19

Ellen: In this episode, Paige and Ellen attend a studio party. At the party, Oscar winner Emma Thompson plays a lesbian who wants to come out but doesn't want what follows. Sean Penn also makes an appearance. (30 min.) *ABC at 9:30 p.m.* **CC**

Chicago Hope: For those who did not catch the Nov. 5 episode, Dr. Hancock came out as a gay man to Dr. Shutt during surgery. In tonight's episode, Shutt has a new career as a psychiatric resident and Austin and McNeal head for London. (1 hr.) *CBS at 10 p.m.* **CC**

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: See Monday listing. *Channel 35 at 1 a.m.*

thu. 20

Jeffrey: Steven Weber stars as a man wants to get back in the dating scene but doesn't want to deal with HIV. Michael T. Weiss comes into the picture and rocks his world. *Star Trek*'s Patrick Stewart also stars in this comedy, written by gay playwright Paul Rudnick. (1 hr. 35 min.) *Showtime at 1:45 a.m.*

Independence Day: See Saturday's listing. *HBO at 5:30 p.m.* **CC**

Pulp Fiction: This 1994 Quentin Tarantino film contains a baffling scene in which two enemies are bound and gagged in a S/M dungeon with two men hell-bent on sodomizing them. (3 hrs.) *WPIX (Fox) at 8 p.m.*

AIDS and the Issues: An HIV/AIDS program that focuses on awareness. *Channel 17 at 7 p.m.*

Homovisiones: Variety show for gay Latinos, featuring interviews and entertainment. *Channel 34 at 10:30 p.m.*

Gay USA: National gay news and entertainment. *Channel 35 at 11 p.m. Last week's episode is repeated on Channel 34 at 2 a.m.*

fri. 21

Peter's Friends: Openly gay actor and writer Stephen Fry plays Peter, who assembles his friends at his home to tell them that he is HIV positive. (1 hr. 45 min.) *Encore at 12 a.m.*

Men in Films: An entire show devoted to the review of the latest gay porn. Interviews, too. *Channel 35 at 12 a.m.*

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: See Monday listing. *Channel 35 at 12:30 a.m.*

It's a Wonderful Life: Michael Wakefield's gay talk/variety show. *Channel 34 at 1:30 a.m.*

This Way Out: Gay and lesbian news with an international flair. *WBAI 99.5 FM Friday at 8:30 a.m.*

One Night Stand: Ellen DeGeneres. See Saturday, Nov. 15 listing. *Comedy Central at 9 p.m.*

sat. 22

Barry Z Show: Interviews with Broadway stars, cabaret singers, actors, and other people who keep our minds out of the gutter. *Channel 35 at 1 p.m.*

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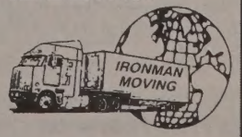

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San Francisco band Tribe 8 brings queercore punk to Dumba on Nov. 17.

appointments

a weekly guide to arts events in and around New York

theater

Shelly Mars brings her powerful insights from the Bedford Prison to the stage in ***Mars Behind Bars.*** Mars spent time with the women of Bedford Prison as a volunteer and offers insights based on her experience. She also deals with political issues affecting women in prison. Tickets are $10. The performance is on Friday, Nov. 14, at 10 p.m. Dixon Place is located at 258 Bowery. For more information, call (212) 219-3088.

Gay funnyman Scott Stiffler's ***Honeypot*** promises to be a "monthly series that gives performers a chance to ramble about a philosophical theme." The theme on Friday, Nov. 14, is "Why Not?" Well, why not stop by to find out? The event is at 8 p.m. at Surf Reality, located at 172 Allen St. For more information, call (212) 545-7114. Stiffler's other performance piece, ***Harmful if Swallowed***, is still playing at the Solo Arts Group. The work, billed as "a gay man's gay journey through his own gay gayness," features an eclectic mix of monologues, music, stand-up shtick, and nonthreatening audience participation. This show is on two Saturdays, Nov. 15 and 22, at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10. Solo Arts Group is located at 36 W. 17th St. For reservations, call (212) 545-7114.

Cyndi Freeman lets her imagination run wild in ***Greetings From Hollywood***, a series of autobiographical monologues. She even fantasizes about her father as a drag queen. Presented by Planet Girl, the performance runs on two Saturdays, Nov. 15 and 22, at 10 p.m. at Solo Arts Group. Tickets are $15 and $10 for students and seniors. Solo Arts Group is located at 36 W. 17th St., 5th Floor. For more information, call (212) 613-6474.

Peggy Shaw's show ***Menopausal Gentleman*** has been extended for two more Sundays. This "heated and hormonal" one-woman show takes a look at gender and aging. *The New York Times* calls Shaw "an icon of lesbian butchness." The added performances are on Nov. 16 and 23 at 7 p.m. Performances are at Dixon Place, located at 258 Bowery. For more information, call (212) 219-3088.

P.S. 122 presents ***The Tranny Chase***, a dark comedy about a drag queen and her male alter ego, from Nov. 20 through 29. Local drag superstar Linda Simpson leads the cast. Performances are Thursday through Sunday at 8 p.m. There are also late shows on Friday at 11 p.m. Tickets are $12. P.S. 122 is located at 150 1st Ave. (9th St.). Call (212) 477-5288, or visit www.ps122.org.

Liza Minnelli, Joel Grey, John Kander, and Freb Ebb reunite to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ***Cabaret***. The performance, which benefits Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, is on Monday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. Tickets are $25, $125, $200, and $330. The Sony Lincoln Square Theatre is located at 68th St. (Broadway). An after-party will be held at the Hudson Theatre, 145 W 44th St. For tickets or more information, call (212) 840-0770.

Weaving together three characters' stories, ***Pera Palas*** includes a gay Turkish expatriate who returns home with his American lover to face his family. This drama runs Nov. 20 through 24. Show times are Thursday through Sunday at 8 p.m., and Monday at 4 p.m. Tickets are $12, and seniors and students pay $8. The Lark Theater is located at 939 8th Ave., 4th Floor. For tickets or more information call (212) 246-2676.

Queer Stories, a collective of gay writers and performers, presents a show entitled ***Booger Drag***. The performance showcases new material and works in progress from its members, including dance, music, poetry, and general mayhem. The performance is on Friday, Nov. 21, at 7:30 p.m., at the Solo Arts Group. Tickets are $10. Solo Arts is located at 36 W. 17th St., 5th Floor. For reservations or more information, call (212) 592-1979.

Acting Out! The Fourth Annual Lesbian Theatre Conference and Festival is held to inspire lesbians who are interested or already working in theater. The workshop "Using Your Life to Create Your Art" is on Saturday, November 22, at 2 p.m. The workshop "Lesbian Briefs" is on Sunday, November 23, at 2 p.m. This event is sponsored by Sisters on Stage and the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. Admission is $10 per day or $15 for the entire weekend. St. Clement's Theatre is located at 423 W. 46th St. For information and reservations, call (212) 691-0722 between 1 and 5 p.m.

Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman are still boozing it up as the stars of ***Kiki and Herb: Where are We Now?***, a show about a lounge singer and her accompanist who make special music together. Performances are on Sunday, Nov. 23, at 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. Admission is $5. Flamingo East is located at 210 2nd Ave. (13th St.). For more information, call (212) 533-2860.

Play Genet is a rock/R&B musical about the French gay writer Jean Genet, presented by the gay theater group Hot Peaches (now celebrating its 25th anniversary). Genet's life is told in cabaret style. Discovered by the gay writer Jean Cocteau, Genet became France's most frank and shocking writer because of his political and sexual stances. He also endorsed such political groups as the Palestine Liberation Front and the Black Panthers in his later life. The play runs through Nov. 23 at Theater for the New City. Tickets are $10, and the theater is located at 155 1st Ave. For more information, call (212) 254-1109.

The steamy comedian Sandra Bernhard is back in town with a new show. ***I'm Still Here...Damn It!*** has been extended through Saturday, Nov. 29. Bernhard vamps it up at the Westbeth Theatre Center, Tuesday through Saturday at 9 p.m. In her mouthy, sassy style, she sings, acts, and makes fun of '90s culture. Tickets are $30-$35 and may be charged by calling Ticketmaster at (212) 307-7171. They may also be purchased at the Westbeth box office, located at 151 Bank St.

Following the success of Charles Kaiser's new book ***The Gay Metropolis***, HERE Theater presents a one-man stage version of the historic volume. Actor Johnnie Moore performs monologues taken from interviews Kaiser conducted with gay men who lived in Manhattan over the last 50 years. Tickets are $10. The show runs through Saturday, Nov. 16. Curtain is 8 p.m. HERE is located at 145 6th Ave. (below Spring). For more information, call (212) 647-0202.

Jean Claude van Itallie's ***Guys Dreamin'***, at the La Mama Experimental Theater Club through Nov. 16, is a series of vignettes in which gay and straight men examine what it means to "be a man." Van Itallie, who has received two Guggenheim fellowships for his writing, also acts in the production. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets are $12. La Mama E.T.C. is located at 74A E. 4th St., on the first floor. For more information, call (212) 475-7710.

Little Girl Blue, a musical fantasy about a lesbian who meets singer Janis Joplin, runs though Saturday, Nov. 15 at W.O.W. Café. The piece, written by Carolyn Farhie, features Terri O'Neil as the late, great Joplin. Performances are at 8 p.m., and tickets are $6. W.O.W. Café is located at 59 E 4th St. For more information, call (212) 777-4280.

Medicine Show's 27th season gets underway with three plays by three gay writers: Frank O'Hara's ***Try! Try!***, Gertrude Stein's ***Three Sisters Who Are Not Sis***

ters, and Jean Genet's ***The Maids***. O'Hara and Stein are on a double bill cleverly titled "Frank and Stein." The roles in *The Maids* – about two lesbian sisters plotting to kill their boss — are played, according to Genet's wishes, by men. Performances run Thursday through Sunday at Medicine Show Theatre, located at 552 W. 53rd St. Tickets are $10. For show times or reservations, call (212) 262-4216.

After runs in Mexico City and Vancouver, the SoHo Rep presents ***Frida K***. The play, about Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, shows the sexually ambiguous painter contemplating her life in politics and art. Performances run Tuesday through Sunday at 8 p.m. The SoHo Rep is located 46 Walker St. Tickets are $15, and are available by calling (212) 334-0962.

A mother, a daughter, and lesbian pirates? It's ***A Pirate's Lullaby,*** Jessica Litwak's new comedy. It's playing at Theatre Off Park, 224 Waverly Place, through Nov. 19. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are $15 to $40. For more information, call (212) 627-2556.

WPA Theatre's ***Queen Aramantha*** continues its successful run. Charles Busch plays a queen – a real one this time — who decides to regain her throne by dressing as a man. How is that for gender bending? WPA is located at 519 W. 23rd St. For show times and tickets, call (212) 206-0523.

New Order's "Bizarre Love Triangle" would be a fitting theme song for ***Dotted Line***, Trilogy Theatre's play about a man, his boyfriend, and his boyfriend's girlfriend. The show features "showtunes and plenty of laughs." Tickets are $35. Trilogy Theatre is located at 341 W. 44th. For show times, call (212) 561-0251.

The wonderfully horrific ***Tell-Tale*** continues its run at Cherry Lane Theater. This comedy, a drag rendering of Edgar Allen Poe's *Telltale Heart* featuring Sherry Vine, Jackie Beat, and Mario Diaz, is the creation of Theatre Couture. Tickets range from $27.50 to $32.50. Cherry Lane is located at 38 Commerce St. For show times and tickets, call (212) 239-6200.

Theater for the New City presents ***Back When — Back Then***, a drama about a man who is haunted by memories of beating his wife. During the course of the show, the main character also explores his own homophobia. Tickets are $10. The theater is located at 155 1st Ave (10th St) For show times, call (212) 254-1109.

Bette Davis and Katharine Hepburn are portrayed in ***Bette and Kate Join the Line***. The play, performed every Saturday at 10 p.m., speculates on what might happen if these gay icons had shed their superstar status and tried to be just plain folks. Tickets are $10. The Duplex is located at 61 Christopher St. (7th Ave So.). For reservations, call (212) 255-5438.

True Confessions of a Go-Go Girl by Jill Morley continues at Red Room Theatre. As the title implies, this is a one-woman show that bares all. Shows are on Friday at 10:30 p.m. Tickets are $10. Red Room is located at 85 E. 4th (2nd Ave). For more information, call (212) 460-0982.

From the creators of *Making Porn* comes ***10 Naked Men***, a play about male prostitution. Show times are Tuesday through Thursday at 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m. The play is now running at the Actor's Playhouse, 100 7th Ave South. Tickets are $35. For more information, call (212) 239-6200.

An all-male cast is featured in Euripides's ***Medea,*** currently being staged by Flatiron Productions. This Greek tragedy about love gone bad – very, very bad — is playing through Nov. 23 at Duality, located at 119 W. 23rd St. Suite 302. For show times, call (212) 206-9341.

The Last Session, presented at the 47th St. Theater, is a musical about a songwriter with AIDS whose final recording session literally saves his life. With music and lyrics by Steve Schalchlin, this musical is garnering raves for its great vocals. The theater is located at 304 W. 47th St. For show times and tickets, call (212) 239-6200.

Lesbian Paula Vogel hits a winner with ***How I Learned to Drive***, a drama starring Molly Ringwald and John Shea, and directed by Mark Brokaw. Vogel shows a how a young woman comes of age in a broken family during the '60s and '70s. Tickets range from $25 to $45. The Century Theatre is located at 111 E. 15th St. For show times and tickets, call (212) 239-6200.

The Red Room Theatre presents ***Tea Time with the Sodomite***. Written and performed by Jack Shamblin, this piece takes a historical look at the politics of sodomy. Performances are Sundays at 3 p.m., though November. The theater is located at 85 E 4th St. (2nd and 3rd Aves.) For more information, call (212) 460-0982.

The Working Group presents ***This Passion Thing*** at the 28th Street Theater. Gay playwright Steve Murray wrote this dark comedy, which runs through Nov. 16. Tickets are $15. The theater is located at 120 W. 28th St. For show times, call (212) 479-8537.

Fans of gay playwright Douglas Carter Beane can see his latest work, ***As Bees in Honey Drown***, at the Lucille Lortel Theater. This fast-paced, witty production, which features J. Smith Cameron as the slick seducer of a young gay novelist played by Bo Foxworth, is playing Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 6 and 9 p.m., and Sunday at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets are $40 and $45. Lucille Lortel is located at 121 Christopher St. For information, call (212) 239-6200.

Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde, now playing at the Minetta Lane Theatre, chronicles the life of gay writer Oscar Wilde. Performances are Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets are $29.50 and $47.50 and are available by calling the Minetta Lane Theatre at (212) 420-8000 or TicketMaster (212) 307-4100. The Minetta Lane Theatre is located at 18 Minetta Lane (between Bleecker and W. 3rd).

Howard Crabtree's last (and funniest) musical is now in its second year at the Douglas Fairbanks Theatre. The award-winning ***When Pigs Fly*** is a costumed romp of outlandish proportions. The Douglas Fairbanks Theatre is located at 432 W. 42nd St. (9th Ave.). Tickets are $45. For more information, call (212) 239-6200.

Inspired by Puccini's *Boheme*, ***Rent*** continues to draw both hipsters and tourists. This rock-opera about East Village inhabitants of every sexual orientation struggling against AIDS and homelessness was written by the late Jonathan Larson. The Nederlander Theatre is located at 208 W. 41st. Tickets range from $30 to $70. For information, call (212) 307-4100.

galleries and exhibits

Sal Monetti and other artists will have their work displayed at **Leatherfest '97** on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Leatherfest '97 is held at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. For more information, call Gay Male S/M Activists at (212) 727-9878.

Gay artist **John Dugdale** presents recent photographs entitled *Illuminato dal Sole* at the Wessel and O'Connor Gallery. The opening is Friday, Nov. 21, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at 242 W. 26th St. Hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (212) 242-8811.

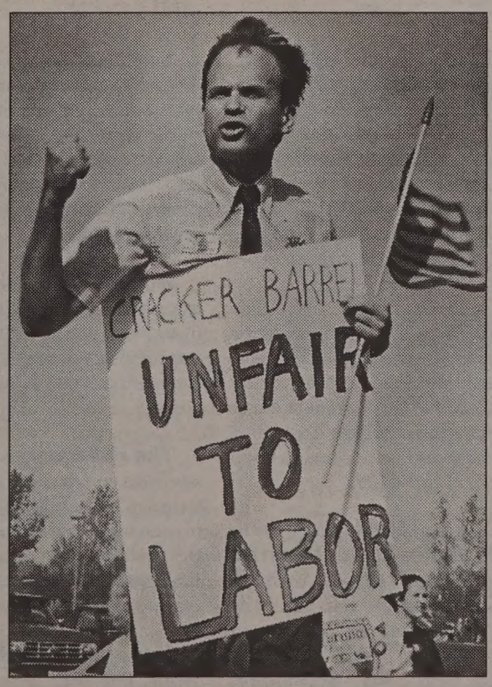
The Whitney Museum of American Art is now exhibiting ***The Warhol Look/Glamour Style Fashion.*** Items include paintings, clothes, and other materials retrieved from the Warhol Museum. The Whitney is located at 945 Madison Ave. (75th St.) Hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m. For more information, call (212) 327-2801.

P.S. 1 is now exhibiting four floors of great works by various artists. Many of the works are installations and all of the works are wonderfully challenging. Artist Jack Smith, for instance, deals with drag queens, sex, and, lesbians in his notorious photography series *Flaming Creature*. P.S. 1 is located at 22-25 Jackson Ave. in Long Island City, Queens. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (718) 784-2084.

Scott Korn's ***Moments in History: ACT-UP*** is now on exhibit in the Reading Room Gallery of A Different Light Bookstore, located at 151 W. 19th St. The show will run through Dec. 31. For more information, call A Different Light at (212) 989-4850.

The Leslie-Lohman Gay Art Foundation has announced the opening of the **Painting Invitational III** exhibit. The show features paintings from Ben Moore, Matthew Snow, Michael Rogovsky, and Steve Walker. Leslie-Lohman is located at 127 Prince St. in the basement. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m. For more information, call (212) 673-7007, or visit the web site at www.3wnet.com/corp/Leslie_Lohman.

The art of **Dyke Action Machine** is featured at Rising Café through Nov. 15. This exhibit features public art campaigns from the past seven years. Rising Café is located at 186 5th Ave. in Park Slope, Brooklyn. For more information, call (718) 789-6340.



Class dismissed

Out at Work — a film that documents the lives of three gay workers who came out on the job — has had a tough time reaching an audience. After a positive reception at the Sundance Film Festival earlier this year, *Out at Work* was slated to be part of PBS's *P.O.V.* series but was rejected because labor unions and a lesbian foundation provided some of its funding. The film will be the subject of a daylong symposium at New York University on Saturday, Nov. 15. After a 10 a.m. screening, the film's producers and directors will discuss the making of the documentary. The afternoon's panelists — professors, labor organizers, and media experts — will discuss class, sexuality, and the media. Virginia Apuzzo, the White House's assistant to the president for management and administration, is also scheduled to speak. The symposium will be held at NYU's Cantor Film Center, 36 E 8th St. The event is free and open to the public, but registration is recommended to guarantee seating. To register, call (212) 633-6700x306 or send e-mail to pgm3871@is4.nyu.edu.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

Gay artist Frank Holliday's: ***Wah-Wah Series*** is showing at Debs and Company through Dec. 6. Holliday shared his New York debut exhibition with Keith Haring in the early 1980s. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Debs and Company is located at 529 W. 20th St., 9th Floor. For more information, call (212) 647-7080.

The Wessel and O'Conner Gallery presents Bill Costa's ***Photographs from the Estate***. This exhibit of black-and-white photos views the male figure from a public and private perspective. This is the first retrospective of Costa's since his death in 1995. Hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The gallery is located at 242 W. 26th St. For more information, call (212) 242-8811.

Art AIDS Action and Mapping No Boundaries presents ***Room Ten-36***. This installation, by New Yorker Eric Rhein, deals with medicine and the human body's ability to transcend illness. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. The installation is located at Art in General, 79 Walker St. For information, call (212) 219-0473.

Hunter College is currently presenting ***Text and Touch,*** an exhibit featuring women artists. Among the artists on display is Kiki Smith, who incorporates women's sexuality into her work. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 1 to 6 p.m. Hunter's gallery is located at 450 W. 41 St. (Dyer Ave.). For more information, call (212) 772-4991.

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, Hal Bromm Gallery is featuring a range of work from the 1970s to the present. Each of the photographers offers his view of what constitutes photography. The late **David Wojnarowicz**, one the exhibit's key artists, deals with desire and violence in his work. Hours are Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibition runs through Dec. 23. The gallery is located at 90 W. Broadway. For information, call (212) 732-6196.

Public Notice: Art and Activist Posters from 1951-1997 is on display at Exit Art through Nov. 30. This exhibition highlights the "intersection of graphic design, the fine arts, and political activism." *Public Notice* includes posters from **Andy Warhol**, the **Guerilla Girls**, and **Gran Fury**. Hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Exit Art is located at 548 Broadway. For more information, call (212) 966-7745.

Great Modern Pictures presents photographs of **Andy Warhol, Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg. David Bowie, Janis Joplin, Joan Baez,** and others. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The gallery is located at 17 W. 24th St (Broadway and 6th Ave.). For information, call (212) 242-2581.

Kelly unmasked

Will the real John Kelly please stand up? Although the versatile gay singer/actor has been known to transform himself (with some help from the costume department) into Maria Callas or Jean Cocteau in his previous performances, this time Kelly will perform as himself in *Sing Low Sweet Love*. Accompanied by a five-piece ensemble, the two-time Obie winner will sing the works of diverse artists from Janis Ian to Bertolt Brecht, the Beach Boys to Edith Piaf. Kelly's last show, a tribute to Joni Mitchell, was a sellout, so fans should get tickets early. Performances are at 7 p.m. on Nov. 16, 23, and 30 at the Westbeth Theater, 151 Bank St. (between Washington and West sts.). Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. For more information, call (212) 307-7171.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

film

Nick and Jane is a movie about two unlikely lovers and their ascent (or descent?) into bliss. Nick is a starving artist/cabbie, and Jane is a high-powered financial executive. Get the picture? While the lead actors are great, the movie's highlights and laughs come from drag diva Miss CoCo Peru, Nick's neighbor, who turns out some great nightclub performances and just wants to have a cocktail. Buster Poindexter also provides laughs as the flamboyant Carter. The two queens give Nick some "womanly" advice and, well, the rest is love. *Nick and Jane* opens at the Village East on Friday, Nov. 14. The theater is located at 189 2nd Ave. (12th St.). For more information, call (212) 529-6799.

Fresh from the Sundance Film Festival, ***Slaves to the Underground*** is an honest look at Seattle's music scene. This romantic comedy involves two women and a man in a love triangle of the '90s. The soundtrack contains artists like Ani Difranco, Suzie Gardener (from L7), and Noise Addict. The film opens on Nov. 14 at Quad Cinema, 34 W. 13th St. For more information, call (212) 255-8800.

Bugis Street is a touching look at a young woman in Singapore and the transgendered prostitutes who help her figure out what it means to be a woman. Bugis Street is now playing at Village East Cinemas, located at 189 2nd Ave. For more information, call (212) 529-6799.

The 11th Annual **New York Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Video Festival** runs through Nov. 16. For a complete listing of the screenings, call Cinema Village or visit the festival web site at www.echonyc.com/~mix. Screenings will be held at Cinema Village, 22 E 12th (University Place and 5th Ave.) and at the Knitting Factory, located at 74 Leonard St. (Church and Broadway). For information and tickets, call (212) 501-2309.

MIXNYC will also present an **on-line digital queer film festival** on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 8 to 10 p.m. The site is located at www.popcornQ.com. Those who are computer-impaired can watch the festival at Void, 15 Mercer St. (north of Canal). For more information, call (212) 941-6492.

An all-star cast is featured in the film ***Twilight of the Golds***. In the film, a mother-to-be learns that her son may carry the gene that is found in most homosexuals. Knowing this, the family must make ethical and moral decisions about the possibility of having a gay son. Now playing at area theaters.

Boogie Nights stars Mark Wahlberg as porn star Dirk Diggler. A gay character in the film idolizes Diggler, and the porn star is a victim of mistaken gay bashing. Burt Reynolds co-stars. Now playing at area theaters.

The Full Monty is a look at out of work steelworkers who form a Chippendales-type strip act. What follows are hilarious scenes of men in various states of undress. Two of the male dancers also share an intimate moment in this light-hearted comedy. Now playing at area theaters.

Happy Together, directed by Wong Kar-Wai, is a drama about two Hong Kong expatriates living in Argentina. The film is currently showing at area theaters.

In and Out is still playing at area theaters. This look at a small-town teacher (Kevin Kline) who gets outed by a former student (Matt Dillon) is full of hilarious antics. Gay playwright Paul Rudnick (*Jeffrey*) wrote the campy screenplay.

L.A. Confidential stars Kevin Spacey and Danny DeVito in this wicked plot to set up a D.A. with an unknown gay actor. Guy Pearce (*The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*) also stars. Now playing at area theaters.

music

Musician **Michael Ottati** will demonstrate his love of Broadway on Friday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore. His show consists of songs from his recording *The Silence is Over: A Collection of Broadway Ballads*. A Different Light is located at 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

A Celebration of Life 6 is held at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 16, at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle. The annual concert benefits Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and the Momentum Project, a program for HIV-positive men, women, and children. The concert includes performances by Alan Menken, Michael Feinstein, Mark Waldrop, and John Bucchino. Rue McClanahan and Vicki Sue Robinson will also make appearances. Tickets are $30 to $60, and are available by calling (212) 265-3495, x309. The church is located on Columbus Ave. between 59th and 60th streets.

San Francisco's **Tribe 8** will be heading over to Dumba for a show on Monday, Nov. 17, at 8 p.m. The lesbian queercore band are known for their shirtless appearances and energetic performances. New York City's own Justin Bond will also perform at this event. Tickets are $5. Dumba is located at 57 Jay St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. For more information, call (212) 726-2686.

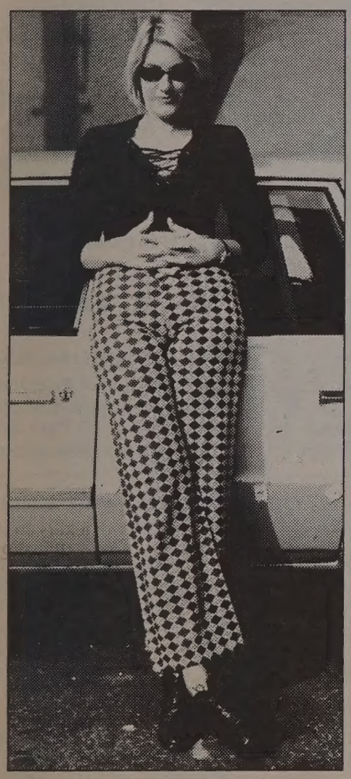
The 2nd Annual New York City "Chainsaw" Concert is on Monday, Nov. 17, at 7:30 p.m. The concert includes performances by gay singers/songwriters of Native American descent. The concert also benefits the "Adopt a Grandparent Program" for the Lakota Elders on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Music includes jazz, opera, classical, and Broadway. A $10 suggested donation is suggested and the concert is at Christ and St. Steven's Church, 122 W. 69th St. (East of Broadway). For more information, call (212) 799-4582.

Gay cabaret singer **Thomas Diverneiro** performs at Don't Tell Mama on Wednesday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. Diverneiro adds elements of theater, performance art, and monologues to this autobiographical show. Whenever Patti Labelle is in New York, she always asks Diverneiro to sing with her. Tickets are $10 with a two-drink minimum. Don't Tell Mama is locat-

ed at 343 W 46th St. For more information or reservations, call (212) 757-0788.

New York's Lesbian and Gay Symphonic Band, the **Rainbow Symphonic Winds**, performs on Saturday, Nov. 22, at 8 p.m. The program includes works by Monteverdi, Gastoldi, and Vecchi. General admission is $10, while $5 admits students and seniors. The concert is at St. Peter's Church, 346 W 20th St. (8th and 9th Aves.).

Daniel Cartier continues his tour in support of his recent release *Avenue A*. In addition to last week's performance, Cartier will once again hit the Fez on Wednesday, Nov. 26, at 10 p.m. The Fez is located at 380 Lafayette St. (Great Jones). For tickets or more information, call (212) 533-2680.



Father figure

Striving to follow in the footsteps of her famous father – one of Coney Island's original Lindy Hoppers –Susan Jeremy embarked on her quest for stardom at a young age. Rejected at 15 by a modeling agency because of the gap in her teeth (before it was fashionable), Jeremy stayed in show business by taking odd jobs, from stilt-walking at bar mitzvahs to playing Calvin Klown at children's parties. She eventually hit it big on the comedy club circuit as an out lesbian (before it was fashionable), winning guest spots on Comedy Central. Now Jeremy gets a bit more time in the spotlight in her new one-woman show *Was That My 15 Minutes?* Set in an Italian-American community in Long Island's Floral Park, *Was That My 15 Minutes?* is an autobiographical look back at Jeremy's relationship with her father and her desire for fame at any cost. Performances are at 10 p.m. on Nov. 14, 15, and 20 through 22, and at 8 p.m. on Nov. 24 at the La MaMa Experimental Theater Club, 74A E. 4th St. Tickets are $15. For more information, call (212) 475-7710.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

readings

The Cornelia St. Café presents five queer fiction writers in an evening entitled **Killer Queer Fiction from Three Hots and a Cot.** The evening features Canaan Parker, J.M. Beazer, Tim Driscoli, David Pratt, and Lisa Springer, who begin reading on Sunday, November 16, at 7 p.m. Admission is $5 and includes one drink. Cornelia St. Café is located at 29 Cornelia St. (6th Ave. and Bleecker) For more information, call (212) 989-9318.

Gean Harwood reads and discusses his memoir *The Oldest Gay Couple in America: A Seventy-Year Journey Through Same Sex America.* This reading promises some laughs as well as poignant moments. It begins on Monday, November 17, at 7 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore, 151 W 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Lesbian writer **Sarah Schulman** reads from new works in progress at Beyond Words in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Schulman is the author of *Rat Bohemia* and *My American History: Lesbian and Gay Life During the Reagan/Bush Years.* The reading is on Tuesday, November 18, at 7:30 p.m. Beyond Words is located at 186 5th Ave., Park Slope, Brooklyn. For more information, call (718) 857-0010.

Emanuel Xavier and **Raymond Ruybe** are the featured performers at Carpo's Café on Tuesday, Nov. 18, at 7:30 p.m. An open mike will follow. Carpo's Café is located at 189 Bleecker St. (MacDougal). For more information, call (212) 353-2889.

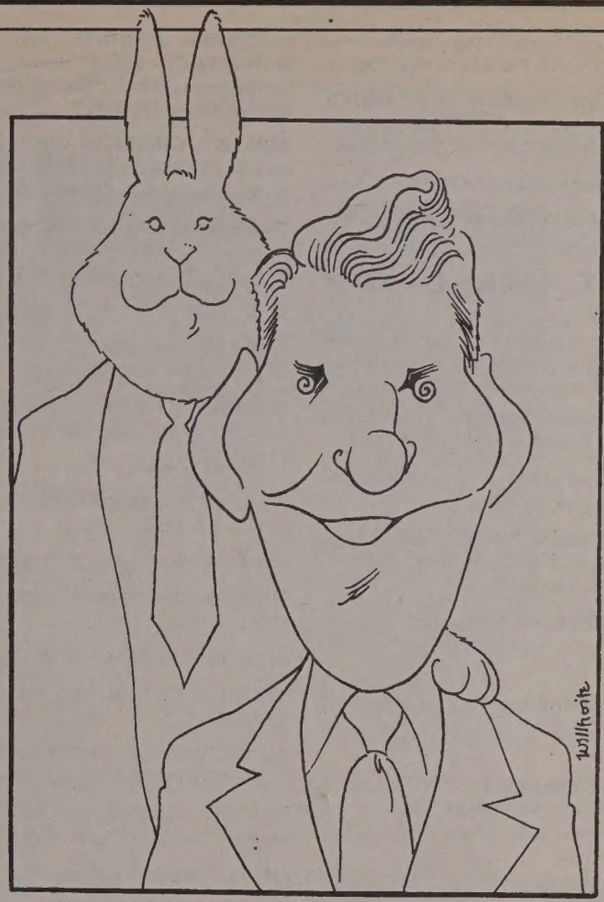
George Baxt reads from *The Clark Gable and Carole Lombard Murder Case* on Tuesday, November 18, at 7 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore. The bookstore is located at 151 W 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Realness and Rhythms, a series that showcases performance poetry on the third Thursday of every month, features Emanuel Xavier, Mariposa, and Andrew Horowitz on Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. Performances are 10 minutes each, and are at A Different Light Bookstore, located at 151 W 19th St. (6th and 7th Aves.). For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

The gay avant-garde filmmaker **Bruce LaBruce** reads and discusses *The Reluctant Pornographer* on Wednesday, November 20, at 7 p.m. at A Different Light. The bookstore is located at 151 W 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Riki Anne Wilchins, the Transgendered Gender PAC Executive Director, reads from her latest non-fiction book entitled *Read My Lips: Sexual Subversion and the End of Gender* on Friday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m. A Different Light Bookstore is located at 151 W 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

—HEATHER CALOMESE



Frank Fay was a minor actor who had one towering stage success, Mary Chase's fey comedy* Harvey. *He was gay, and served for a time as his wife Barbara Stanwyck's cover. Fay was born 103 years ago on Nov. 17.

out and about

November 14 to November 23

All events are held at The Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, located at 208 W. 13th St. unless otherwise noted. For information about Center events, call (212) 620-7310.

F R I D A Y

14

ALL QUEENS WOMEN LESBIAN RAP GROUP, "Money Matters" for lesbians. Bring canned goods for PWA drive. 8 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 147-54 Ash Ave. (149th). Flushing, NY 11355. Info, 718/380-2210.

COLUMBIA CENTER, "Making Your Relationship Work." Workshop by couples therapist at the Columbia Center for L/G/B Mental Health. Conference Center, 6:30-7:45 p.m. 16 E 60th St. Info, 212/326-8441.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT (GMAD), "Protease Inhibitors: Race & Accessibility" forum. 8 p.m. Harlem United, 123 W 124th St. (Adam Clayton Powell & Malcolm X Blvds.) Info, 212/420-0773.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS, bar night at The Eagle, 11th Ave. (21st). 8-11 p.m.

91ST BEAUX ARTS BALL, attended by Imperial Queens & Kings NY. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Big Band era theme please. B. Smith's Rooftop Café, 771 8th Ave. (47th St.) 212/229-1968.

TIMES SQUARES, square dance. 7:30 p.m. Info, 718/651-7992.

YOUTH DROP-IN, spons by Center Lane.g/l/b for 21 & under. The Loft, 180 E. Post Rd., White Plains, NY 10601.

W E E K L Y E V E N T S

BI/G FATHER'S FORUM, social/support group. General mtg. 7-9 p.m. 212/721-4216.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, gay men's issues. 8:30 p.m.

GENTLE MEN, meet quality men for relationships. 8 p.m. 212/501-2034.

GENTLE MEN, meet quality men for relationships. 8 p.m. 212/501-2034.

INCEST AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS ANONYMOUS, regular mtg. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

LATINO GAY MEN OF NY, LATINOS(AS) DE AMBIENTE NY, social/support organization. 8 p.m. 212/614-2945.

MEN OF COLOR TOGETHER, promotes multi-culuturalism. General mtg. 8-11 p.m. 212/330-7678.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 6 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, gay Dignity regular mtg. 8 p.m.

PSYCHOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP, 8-10 p.m. $5. 212/228-5153.

SAGE, women's 50+ rap group, 7:30 p.m. Women's 40+ rap group, 7 p.m.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS, call for a listing of events. 212/439-1123

SHARING IN LESBIAN KINSHIP, social discussion group. 8-10 p.m. Bellmore

Presbyterian Church, 2740 Martin Ave., Bellmore, NY 11710. For info, 516/935-7967.

SISTAHS IN SEARCH OF TRUTH, ALLIANCE, HARMONY (SISTAH) support for Bi/L Women of color. 5:30-8 p.m. 212/479-7886.

SUPPORT FOR SINGLE LESBIANS, 6:30-8 p.m.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST ANONYMOUS, women's beginners. 6-8 p.m.

SATURDAY

15 **CONNECTIONS FOR GAY MEN,** dating/sex/intimacy workshop. 12-5:30 p.m. Registration/Info, 212/580-9595.

FRONT RUNNERS NY, 9:45 a.m. Central Park run. Confirm, 212/724-9700 or rin@columbia.edu.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS, workshops/leather marketplace/art auction. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. $10.

G/L/BI VETERANS OF NY, Rainbow Eagle Awards. 6:30 p.m. FIT, W 27th St. (8th Ave.) Info & reservations, 212/349-3455.

NY RAMBLERS SOCCER CLUB, practice. North Meadow Central Park (W 98th St.). 4-7 p.m. 212/724-7992.

PFLAG DINNER/DANCE, honoring Tom Duane and Ganga Stone. Info & tickets, Linda 212/864-1093.

THEATER/DINNER/ETC. NON-SMOKING LESBIAN NETWORK, women 35+ group for dinner and/or show. Info, 718/998-2536 until 10 p.m.

YO! GMAD, fetishes forum.4:30 p.m. GMAD, 133 W 4th St. (6th Ave. & Washington Sq. Park) on the basement level. Info, 212/420-0773.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, struggle for intimacy. 10 a.m.

AL-ANON, GLAD g/l discussion. 8 p.m.

BI-SOCIAL, $5. 8-10 p.m. Lewis, 718/859-8445.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS, open mtg. 6 p.m.

DIGNITY /BIG APPLE, for l/g Catholics. 8 p.m. 212/818-1309.

GIRTH & MIRTH OF NY, for chubby men & their admirers. 914/699-7735.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, open gay mtg., 5 p.m. Sat. night fellowship, 10 p.m.

PERSONAL CONNECTIONS meet men interested in a LTR. Suggested donation, $5. 8 p.m.

PHILOSOPHY CLUB, discussion group. 3-5 p.m. 201/798-9566.

PRIME TIMERS, general mtg. for mature men. 2-4 p.m. 212/929-1035.

QUEER STORIES, Gay men's workshop for storytelling and performance. $5. 12:30-2 p.m. Tom, 212/505-7066.

SCA-ANON, 6 p.m.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS, call for events. 212/439-1123.

SOUTH ASIAN LESBIAN & GAY ASSOC., (SALGA) 3:30-5:30 p.m. (212) 294-2555.

TRANSGENDER HEALTH EDUCATION CLINIC, primary care 11a.m -3 p.m. By appt. Peer counseling, 11a.m. -3 p.m. walk-in.

SUNDAY

16 **FAST & FABULOUS CYCLING TEAM,** 9 a.m. rides, through Central Park or South Mountain. All levels/ages welcome. Call to confirm: 212/567-7160.

LAVENDER HEIGHTS, G/L OF NO. MANHATTAN. Potluck dinner. 6:30 pm. Cornerstone Center, 178 Bennett Ave. (189 St.) 212/304-3629 or 740-0563.

PARK AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 11 a.m. worship. 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.) Guest preacher, Hortensia Bonilla. Info, 212/288-3246.

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, Sunday services. St. Mary's Church, Classon Ave. (Willoughby St.) in Brooklyn. Info, 718/636-5646.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AFRICAN ANCESTRAL LESBIANS UNITED FOR SOCIAL

CHANGE, for women with children. 2-5 p.m. Candice, 212/620-7310.

AL-ANON, Sundays at The Center. 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, call for a listing of events. 212/647-1680.

CHI KUNG, gentle exercise. $2. 6-7 p.m. 201/746-7686.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS, meditation, 11:30-12:15 p.m. Topic, 12:30 p.m.

DEBTORS ANONYMOUS, 12:15 p.m

GRAND SLAM BRIDGE GROUP, 2-5 p.m. 516/989-8226.

IDENTITY HOUSE SUNDAY NIGHT MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, 7-9 p.m. 212/ 243-8181.

KNIGHTS WRESTLING GROUP, men's wrestling. 2:30-5 p.m. 718/639-5141.

LESBIAN DATE BAIT, mixer for women in a structured environment $10. Limited seating. 1-4 p.m. 212/501-6443.

METRO GAY WRESTLING ALLIANCE, 2-5 p.m. 212/563-7066.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 2:15 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, lesbian mtg. 12:30 p.m., gay men 7 p.m.

SCA-EN ESPANOL, COMPULSIVOS SEXAULES ANONIMOS 7 p.m. 212/388-9124.

WATER OF LIFE, urine therapy. 4-7 p.m. 718/774-1167.

MONDAY

17 **GMHC,** walk-in counseling for gay men. 5-8 p.m. GMHC, 119 W 24th St., 6th Floor. Info, 212/337-1519.

NY ADVERTISING & COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, "An Investor's True or False." 8-9:30 p.m. Info, 212/462-9255

PWAC, confidential support group for black gay men who are HIV+. 6-8 p.m. 44 E 32nd St. Info, 212/647-1415.

RADICAL WOMEN, "Socialist Feminist Take on the World" study group. Topic: racist violence. Snacks, 6:45 p.m. & $3 donation. Discussion, 7-8:30 p.m. & $1 donation. 32 Union Sq. East, #907. Info, 212/677-7002.

YOUTH DROP-IN, spons by Center Lane. 4-6 p.m. The Loft, 180 E. Post Rd. White Plains, NY 10601. Info, 914/948-1042.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ACT-UP, general mtg. 7:30 p.m. 212/642-5499. ACTUPNY@panix.com.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, G/L/B mtg. 6 p.m.

CITY CRUISERS, NYC motorcycle club. 8 p.m. 718/622-2996.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, mtg. 7 p.m. 212/685-3002.

GENDER IDENTITY PROJECT, men's support group. 6-7:30 p.m.

ITALIAN SERATA, Italian speakers converse and socialize. $3. 6-8 p.m. 212/772-3511.

INTERFAITH BIBLE STUDY, all are welcome for reading/discussion of the Bible. 8-10 p.m. 718/284-0179.

ISRAELIS & FRIENDS, support/socialgroup. 12-2 p.m. 212/726-1681.

LESBIAN & GAY IMMIGRATION RIGHTS TASK FORCE, dedicated support to end discrimination. General mtg. 6:30-8 pm. 802-7264.

NETWORK FOR THE REALIZATION OF GOODNESS, women's spirituality circle. 8 p.m. 212/348-5738.

OUTMUSIC, Roundtable 8 p.m. $5. 212/330-9197.

PARTNERS OF MARRIED LESBIANS, topics in and around women dating married women. 6-8 p.m. 212/927-8479.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS, call for events. 212/439-1123.

WOMEN'S GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP, loss support and healing. All women welcome. 6-7:30 p.m. Info, Ellyn 212/620-7310.

TUESDAY

18 **ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION & ADOPTION GROUP.** 7:30 p.m. The Loft, 180 E Post Rd., White Plains, NY 10601. Info, 914/948-4922.

PARK AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, "Art and Worship" discussion with Janet Walton. 7 p.m. PACC, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.) Info, 212/288-3246.

REIKI HEALING CIRCLE, all women welcome. $2. 8-9:30 p.m. Info, 212/721-9572.

THE URANTIA BOOK, study group & spiritual guidance. 8-10 p.m. Call for location, 212/289-1741.

YOUTH DROP-IN, for gay teens. Spons by Center Lane. The Loft, 180 E Post Rd., White Plains, NY 10601. Info, 914/948-2932.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, women now mtg. 6-7:15 p.m.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, women's mtg. 9:15 p.m.

GAY THINK TANK, non-partisan discussion on social/political issues. Neil, 718/626-9577.

GENDER IDENTITY PROJECT, women's support group. 7:30-9 p.m.

GMHC, drop-in for Spanish-speaking gay men. One-on-one counseling. GMHC, 119 W 24th St., 6th Fl. 5-8 p.m. 212/337-1519

LESBIAN & GAY CASEWORKERS, fight on-the-job harassment. 6-8 p.m. 718/353-3941.

LESBIAN & GAY LAW ASSOC. OF NY, Walk-in clinic. 6:30-8 p.m. Registration, 6-6:30 p.m. 212/353-9118.

MALE SURVIVORS OF INCEST, RAPE, AND SEXUAL ABUSE, 8:30-10 p.m. 212/ 477-9686.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30 p.m.

SIRENS MOTORCYCLE CLUB, 8-10 pm. 749-6177.

TWENTYSOMETHING, alternative to bar scene for G/L/B young adults. 8 p.m. 212/439-8051.

VILLAGE PLAYWRIGHTS, 6-8 p.m. 718/522-0591.

WEDNESDAY

19 **BUTCH/FEMME SOCIETY,** open discussion. $2. 6:30 p.m. Info, 212/388-2736.

INTEGRITY/NY, Episcopalian G/L service & social hour. 6:30 p.m. Church of the Holy Apostles, 9th Ave. (28th St.) Info, 212/691-7181.

RADICAL WOMEN, "Uppity Women's Night Out." Conversation and coalition building. Dinner, 7 p.m. Mtg., 7:30 p.m. $6. 32 Union Sq. East, #907. Info, 212/677-7002.

YOUTH DROP-IN, spons by Center Lane. 4-6:30 p.m. The Loft, 180 E. Post Rd., White Plains, NY 10601. Info, (914) 948-1042.

WEEKLY EVENTS

BISEXUALS IN LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS, Discussion/support for those in a LTR, still Actively bisexual. All are welcome. 6:30-8 pm. Judy, 718/788-7512.

BISEXUAL WOMEN, all women welcome. 6:30-8 p.m.

MEDITATION FOR GAYS, LESBIANS, & BISEXUALS. 8-9 p.m. Carson, 718/242-7980.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS, call for events. 212/439-1123

THE FRENCH SOCIAL CLUB, G/L French speakers socialize and learn french culture. 8-10 p.m. 212/772-3511.

WOMEN PLAYWRIGHTS COLLECTIVE, 6-8 pm. 718/885-1119.

THURSDAY

20 **FALL BAZAAR,** to benefit Sat. Community Lunch Program to feed homeless. Music, food, sales. Thurs. to Sat. at Park Ave. Christian Church, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). $10 admission. Info, 212/288-3246.

GAY FATHERS, group mtg. Call for location & topic. 7 p.m. 212/721-4216.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING & COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK & 2ND THURSDAY NETWORKING WOMEN, spons a night at Brides of the Moon. Orchestra seats, $25. NY Theatre Workshop, 79 E. 4th St. (2nd Ave.) For tickets & info, 212/427-0308 or 212/462-9255.

PUERTO RICAN INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP EMPOWERMENT, 3rd annual Pride Awards. Donation, $5-$20. 7-10 p.m.

WESTCHESTER LESBIAN CONNECTION, all women welcome for the mtg. 7:30 p.m. The Loft, 180 E Post Rd., White Plains, NY 10601. Info, 914/948-4922.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AL-ANON, Beginners and regulars combined. 6-8 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Agnostics, 12 p.m. NY women's discussion, 6 p.m.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, topic mtg. 6 p.m.

ADULT MEN OF ALL AGES TOGETHER/AMAAT, AFRICAN ANCESTRAL LESBIANS UNITED FOR SOCIAL CHANGE, WEEKLY MTG. 6-8 P.M. BIG FATHER'S FORUM, social/support group. General mtg. 7-9 p.m. 721-4216.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP, 8-9 p.m. 532-8379.

FRENCH SOIAL CLUB, for g/l french speakers. 8-10 p.m. Info, 718/353-3511.

LAVENDAR LAMPS, National Gay & Lesbian Nurses Association. Edcation, outreach, support. 8 p.m. 718/478-7297.

NY CYBER QUEERS, computer professionals. 6-8 p.m

SEX PANIC, weekly activist mtg. 8 p.m.

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Appeals court rules in favor of gay dad

RALEIGH, N.C. — A panel of the North Carolina Court of Appeals voted 2 to 1 on Nov. 4 that a gay father's sexual orientation should not preclude him from having visitation rights with his daughter, the News & Observer reported.

The father, Michael Marshall, took his former wife to court to try to secure visitation privileges. The woman, Lisa Sizemore, had argued that Marshall was not a fit parent because he is gay and has a live-in male partner. Sizemore also claimed that Marshall sexually abused the child.

The three-judge panel's majority disagreed that Marshall's sexual orientation made him unfit. Judge K. Edward Greene wrote that the "evidence revealed that [Marshall] was an 'excellent father.'"

In a dissenting opinion, Judge Mark Martin argued that the court should have investigated the sexual abuse allegations more thoroughly, according to the News & Observer report.

The decision was the second time in recent years that the North Carolina appeals court has ruled in favor of gay fathers. Last year, the court ordered that custody be returned to Fred Smith, a gay father. That decision was appealed and the state Supreme Court is expected to rule on that appeal next month, said attorney Beatrice Dohrn, whose Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund is representing Smith.

Protesters picket Gore in Boston

BOSTON, Mass. — On a trip to Boston Oct. 31, Vice President Al Gore passed by a group of children carrying signs with such messages as "Fag Lover Gore, 666," the Harvard Crimson reported.

Egged on by their grandfather, anti-gay preacher Fred Phelps, the six children held up signs with the anti-gay messages, including one that read, "Thank God for AIDS."

Phelps, founder of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., traveled to Boston and Provincetown with about 12 of his church members — reportedly all relatives — to protest homosexuality.

But while the group received angry shouts and expletives in Boston, they received only silence during a 90-minute protest against "fags" in Provincetown.

Residents in the gay resort town knew in advance that Phelps would protest and staged a counter-protest of silence, the Cape Cod Times reported.

Continued on page 14

By Clint Steib

In Boston, six children heckled Vice President Al Gore with signs bearing anti-gay messages, including one that read, "Thank God for AIDS."

Clinton pledges support for hate crimes laws

BY LOU CHIBBARO JR.

During a nationally televised White House conference in which gay activists played a prominent role, President Clinton called on the American people Monday to take a strong stand against hate crimes, including anti-gay hate crimes.

Among those participating from New York in the conference were Christine Quinn of the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project; Verna Eggelston of the Hetrick-Martin Institute; Kevin Jennings of the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Educators Network; and Joan Garry of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

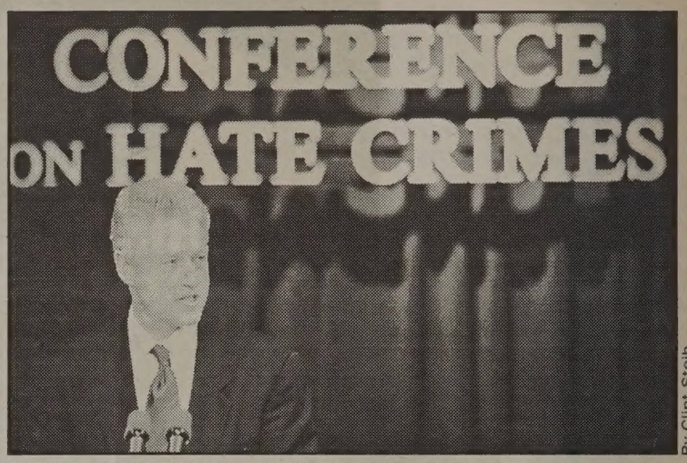
Speaking at the opening session of the first White House Conference on Hate Crimes, President Clinton endorsed legislation that would make it a federal crime to injure someone because of his or her sexual orientation, gender, or disability.

"Our laws already punish some crimes committed against people on the basis of race or religion or national origin, but we should do more," Clinton told the one-day conference. "We must prohibit crimes committed because of a victim's sexual orientation, gender, or disability. All Americans deserve protection from hate."

Sens. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) were expected late this week to introduce the legislation to which the president referred. But activists familiar with the bill said it would apply only to hate crimes against gays, women, and people with disabilities in instances where the hate involves interstate commerce. The activists said the restriction would limit the bill's coverage to about 10 percent of the hate crimes that target those three groups.

Clinton also announced a series of steps, to be taken by the departments of Justice, Education, and Housing and Urban Development, to combat hate crimes in the nation's schools and neighborhoods. Although the White House did not release full details of these proposals at the conference, officials said they will include specific actions aimed at addressing anti-gay hate crimes along with hate crimes against other groups.

About 350 civil rights, law enforcement, education, youth, and religious leaders attended the invitation-only conference, which was held on the campus of George Washington University. At least 20 representatives of gay civil rights and gay anti-violence organizations were among the participants. At least eight more open gays, including an openly gay prosecutor from Los Angeles and an openly gay police officer from Massachusetts, also attended the conference.



By Clint Steib

President Clinton called on the American people Monday to take a strong stand against hate crimes, including anti-gay hate crimes.

At Clinton's request, six cabinet members including U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and Assistant Attorney General Eric Holder, participated in the conference.

In a development hailed by gay activists as unprecedented, Clinton spoke about hate crimes against gays in the first of the conference's three panel sessions, in which he served as moderator.

In opening remarks, Clinton mentioned the murder of a gay man "as he walked home from work" as one of numerous examples of recent hate crimes in the United States.

At one point, Clinton asked seven speakers on the panel — who represented civic, law enforcement, civil rights, gay, and youth constituencies, to advise him "in a sentence" what he, as president, can do to curtail hate crimes.

FBI figures show that hate crimes based on a victim's sexual orientation accounted for 12 percent of the 8,759 hate crimes reported in 1996, the latest year for which such figures are available. Race was a targeting factor in 63 percent of the cases, religion was the factor in 13.9 percent of the cases, and ethnic origin was the factor in 11 percent of the cases.

According to a summary sheet released by the White House, Clinton's new proposals for combating hate crimes include the creation of local "hate crimes working groups" in the offices of each of the nation's 93 United States Attorneys. The working groups will include representatives from the U.S. Attorneys offices, the FBI, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors' offices, educators, and community groups.

Richard Socarides, the White House liaison to the gay community and the lead organizer of the White House conference, said the U.S. Attorneys will seek out participation in these groups from local and state gay organizations, especially groups that monitor anti-gay violence.

An education-related proposal calls for the departments of Justice and Education to distribute to each of the nation's school districts a "manual" for educators that addresses hate crimes. The manual, which some at the conference were calling a suggested "curriculum," will encourage schools to "confront hate-motivated behavior among students," according to the summary sheet released by the White House.

Some shortcomings

Although most gay activists praised the Hate Crimes Protection bill which Kennedy and Specter are expected to introduce, they expressed concern, too. The proposed bill will provide considerably less protection for gays, women, and people with disabilities than the existing hate crimes law provides for members of racial, religious, and ethnic groups.

The disparity between the groups stems from a decision by Kennedy and Specter to limit federal jurisdiction over hate crimes based on sexual orientation, gender, and disability on the U.S. Constitution's interstate commerce clause. The existing hate crimes law, that is limited to hate crimes based on race, religion, and ethnicity, is tied to the Constitution's 13th and 14th Amendments, which provide much broader coverage than the interstate commerce clause.

GLOV President Darryl Cooper said a Justice Department official told him at one of the conference sessions that legal experts advised Kennedy and Hatch to link their bill to the interstate commerce clause. According to Cooper, an attorney, Kennedy and Hatch believe that linking sexual orientation, gender, and disability to the 13th and 14th Amendments — which address issues related to race, religion, and

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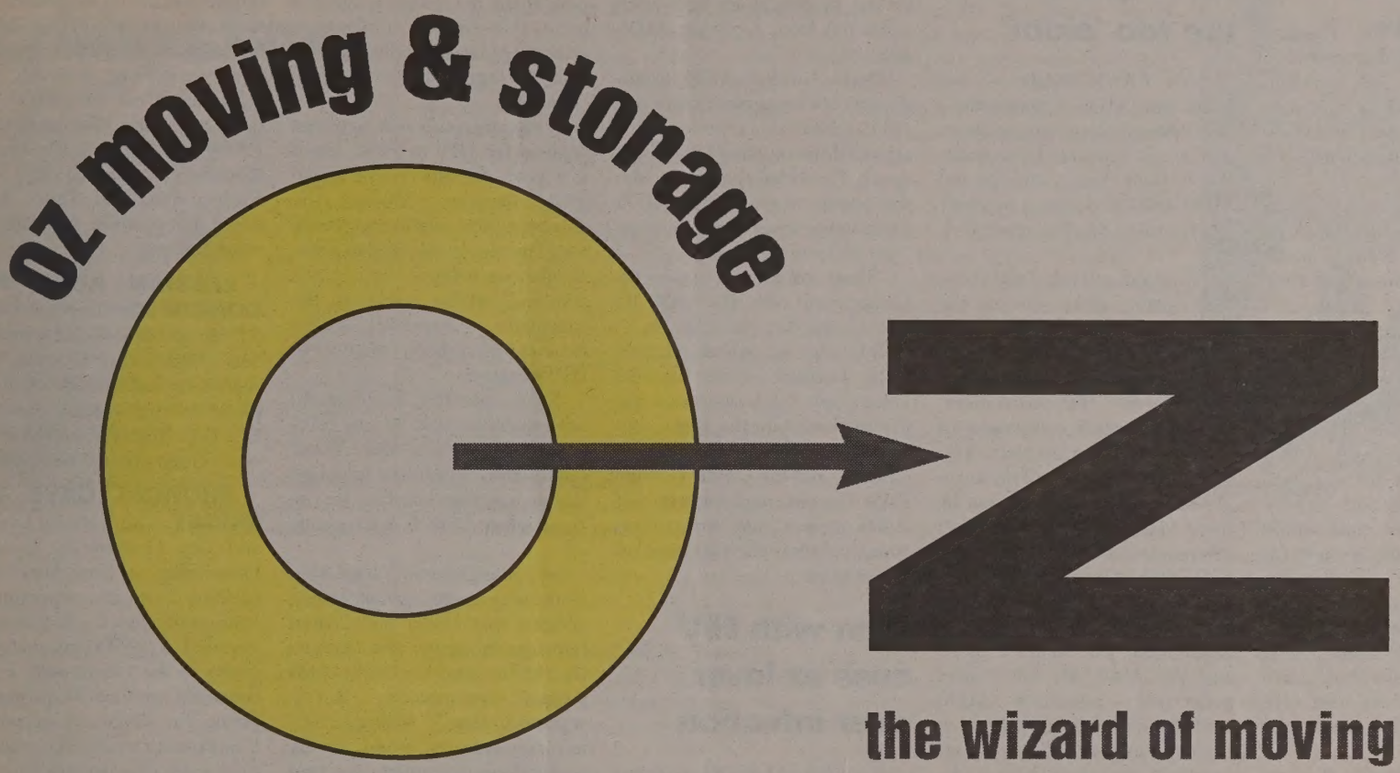

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L.A. gives green light to gay sex club

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles city council agreed Nov. 6 to allow a gay sex club to remain in operation as long as its owners allow AIDS educators to distribute condoms and post safe-sex guidelines.

The council further stipulated that the club, the Barracks, adhere to 23 other newly created zoning regulations, including hiring a security guard and installing a hotline for customer complaints, according to city council records.

The 8 to 4 vote followed two hours of heated public discussion, during which some argued that the club is unfit for the surrounding residential community. Others said the club could become a valuable venue for AIDS prevention.

"Sexual encounter establishments" were legalized by city lawmakers in 1983. Since then, dozens of "sex clubs" have been licensed throughout the city, according to an official in the city clerk's office.

Residents opposed to the Barracks' existence said they will appeal to the city's mayor, according to news reports.

Activists: AIDS groups are too 'aloof'

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco AIDS organizations have become aloof bureaucracies that do not appear to be accountable to their clients, said gay and AIDS activists during a community forum in San Francisco Oct. 28.

Hundreds attended and about two dozen spoke during the forum. Some said that AIDS service organizations should be more "accountable" to the public and suggested that board members and executive directors of such organization be elected by the public. But many of the complaints focused on a decision by three AIDS organizations earlier this year to restrict a controversial AIDS activist from receiving certain services. According to news reports, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the Shanti Project, and the AIDS Health Project collectively restricted AIDS activist Michael Petrelis from participating in client group meetings, apparently because he published transcripts of a confidential client group on the Internet.

According to a transcript, some who spoke at the forum said that although the reported actions by Petrelis were controversial, he should not have been restricted from receiving AIDS services.

Derek Gordon, AIDS Foundation spokesperson, said an AIDS Foundation representative attended the meeting but did not speak. He added that some who did speak were former AIDS Foundation employees who have "very old axes to grind."

"This is not about the problems facing people with HIV/AIDS. It's about vendettas," he said.

Jeff Sheehy, whose Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Democratic Club organized the forum along with the Log Cabin Republican Club, ACT UP/Golden Gate, and the CARE Council PWA Caucus, said the gay and AIDS groups may bring their concerns before the city's board of supervisors.

Man with HIV sues ex-lover over infection

SAN FRANCISCO — A gay man with AIDS sued his former partner in San Francisco Superior Court Oct. 16, alleging that the lover negligently infected him with HIV.

Patrick Miller claims that his former lover, Dr. Bruce Shiramizu, did not acknowledge that he is HIV-positive until seven years after he allegedly infected Miller, according to the Bay Area Reporter.

Miller contends that he tested positive for HIV in 1990, about five years after the couple began living together. During the course of their relationship, both men "routinely engaged in sexual relations without the use of a condom," Miller asserts in the complaint, because Miller believed that both men were HIV-negative.

Miller states that Shiramizu did not tell Miller that he was HIV-positive until this May. Then, said Miller, Shiramizu told him that he had tested positive for the virus before 1990, B.A.R. reported.

In June, Shiramizu filed for a restraining order against Miller, alleging that Milier had beaten him up. Shiramizu also claimed that Miller used his credit cards without permission, B.A.R. reported. Carole Cullum, Shiramizu's attorney, could not be reached for comment. No trial date has been set.

In brief ...

REACHING OUT: Celebrating the one-year anniversary of the New York-based Gay and Lesbian National Hotline, hotline officials last month announced that the hotline (1-888-THE-GLNH) will now be available to provide peer counseling, referrals, and information on Saturdays. The hotline operates Monday through Friday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; and Saturdays from noon until 5 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. Additional information is posted at www.glnh.org

LESBIAN RUNS FOR CONGRESS: Christine Kehoe (D), an openly lesbian member of San Diego's City Council, told reporters last month that she plans to run against two-term U.S. Rep. Brian Bilbray (R) in next year's congressional election.

SHOWING GAYS THE MONEY: The National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership, a New York-based coalition of private, corporate, and community-based foundations, awarded $150,000 in matching grants to the Community Foundation of Cape Cod (Mass.) and the Santa Fe (N.M.) Community Foundation Oct. 21. The money is to be earmarked for gay issues.

— WENDY JOHNSON

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President backs hate crimes laws

Continued from page 12

ethnicity — would likely subject the bill to serious court challenges.

Cooper and HRC's Pratt said the Kennedy-Specter bill, as currently written, will cover only ten percent of the hate crimes committed against gay people because the legislation would have no effect at all unless the hate crime involves interstate commerce. Cooper said that prosecutors could make such a link in case where a gun was manufactured in one state and used in another or when the perpetrator of a hate crime uses a car to escape across state lines.

"Unfortunately, it will not cover the most common type case — when a gay basher beats somebody up on the street with a stick or his fists," Cooper said.

"What this means is 100 percent of the hate crimes based against some groups will be covered but only five percent to ten percent of the hate crimes against gay people will be covered. We don't think that's fair."

Pratt of HRC said her group will lobby Congress to change the bill to provide the same protections as those given in the existing law in the category of race, religion, and ethnicity.

Capitol Hill Update

BIAS COMPENSATION BILL: U.S. Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.) introduced a bill Nov. 8 that seeks to create a federal law allowing victims of hate crimes, including those targeted because of their sexual orientation, to file civil claims against their assailants.

The Bias Crimes Compensation Act of 1997 would enable victims to file civil suits against their assailants and, if they win, would require courts to order the assailants to pay their victims at least $100,000 in compensatory damages. That is in addition to any punitive damages the assailants might be ordered to pay for hate crime attacks. The bill does not address criminal legal issues.

"It is time for Congress to send a strong and unmistakable message to the bigots and racists who commit these crimes: Their days are numbered," said Nadler in a statement announcing the legislation. "Their victims are going to have every legal recourse to get the justice they deserve."

Nadler introduced the same bill in the 103rd Congress, but it did not get a vote.

COLLEGE CRIME BILL: Robert G. Torricelli (D-N.J.) introduced legislation Nov. 6 that calls for all hate crimes committed on college campuses to be reported to the FBI.

Currently, hate crimes on college campuses are reported to the FBI only if they involve murder, rape, or aggravated assault. Torricelli's legislation would require that all hate crimes — including those involving only harassment, vandalism, and simple assault — be reported.

"This proposed legislation would benefit gays because, obviously, thousands of hate crimes involving harassment, vandalism, and simple assault happen to gays and lesbians on college campuses all the time," said Kris Pratt, a senior policy advocate at the Human Rights Campaign.

In announcing the proposed legislation at a press conference, Torricelli said a recent report by the U.S. General Accounting Office indicated that most colleges omit hate crimes from their campus crime reports.

"The Campus Hate Crimes Right to Know Act of 1997 will provide students and their parents with the vital safety and hate crime information they need to make educated college choices," the senator said. "In addition, the requirement to report the full range of hate crimes will raise campus awareness and encourage colleges to develop prevention programs."

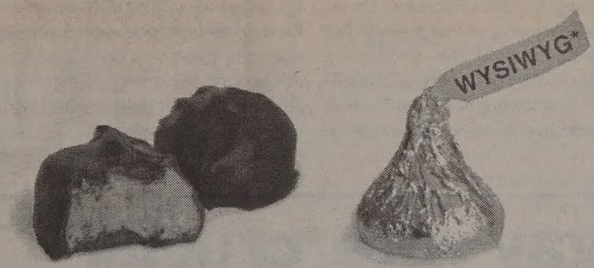
Torricelli's proposal also would expand the definition of hate crime categories to include those committed based on gender and disability. Under the current Higher Education Act of 1965, which would be amended if Torricelli's legislation is approved, only hate crimes based on race, religion, national origin, and sexual orientation are covered.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler introduced a bill that would allow hate crimes victims to sue assailants.

In announcing the bill, Torricelli appeared with Pratt and representatives from the Anti-Defamation League, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the National Organization for Women (NOW).

— RHONDA SMITH AND KAI WRIGHT

Life May Be A Box Of Chocolates.



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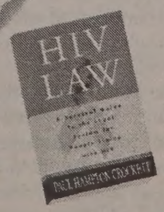


DeGeneres embraces activist role at dinner

Seven months after coming out as gay, comedian Ellen DeGeneres was strikingly serious at the Human Rights Campaign dinner in Washington Saturday night. And strikingly different than she was at a lesbian benefit gala in Los Angeles in March, before she came out.

At the lesbian benefit dinner — held about a month before she and her character on the television sitcom Ellen came out as gay — DeGeneres kept a guarded distance from the audience. She was surrounded by protectors at a press conference and entered the banquet hall only long enough to perform her function at the podium.

At Saturday's Human Rights Campaign dinner, DeGeneres and her lover, actor Anne Heche, strolled casually among the tables. She smiled easily and occasionally waved to and shook hands with people in the audience as they rose to their feet in surprise to see a celebrity's daring to be so accessible.

Rather than retreat behind curtains as she did in March, DeGeneres maintained her seat at a table up front throughout the dinner (though, at the end of the evening, she and Heche did make a private departure).

In March, DeGeneres's remarks before an all-lesbian audience had been carefully scripted to avoid talking about herself at a time when the whole world was watching to see if she would come out as gay. She didn't at that benefit, and she seemed visibly uncomfortable at the tightrope act she was performing.

At HRC's dinner Saturday night, DeGeneres spoke from notes she had hastily drafted only that afternoon. Once again, she appeared uncomfortable, but this time she spoke with great candidness about the "amazing" response to her coming out.

DeGeneres acknowledged to the audience that she "lived with a sense of shame for a long time" about being gay.

"This hasn't been an easy journey for me," she said, in accepting HRC's National Civil Rights Award.

"Every interview, I tried to dodge around that dreaded question, 'Are you Gay'," recalled DeGeneres. "My answer was always, 'My private life is my private life.' And it is. But my sexuality is as much a part of me as my skin color. I tried to justify why I should keep it hidden for as long as I could. I finally got to a point where living honestly and being proud of who I am was more important than fame."

DeGeneres said she recognizes that her fame has meant that her coming out has greater impact than the coming out of other gay people.

"I'm not the first gay person to take a stand, to be honest about who I am," she said. "I recognize my impact is greater because I'm on TV and we put a lot of importance on celebrity.... I could have been a gay person who came out in another job, but instead of standing here, I might have been fired."

Instead, she said, her coming out has reaped many rewards, including greater fame and the frequent thank-yous and thumbs up of people on the streets, construction workers, and people driving by in cars — as well as letters and stories from people all over the country.

"My life is better than it's ever been," she explained. "And I found love; what's more important than that?"

"I feel so good knowing I've made a contribution," said DeGeneres. "That's my reward. I never wanted to be an activist. I just wanted to entertain people and make them feel good. But as I've witnessed the discrimination, the double standards, and heard the statistics about teen suicide, I've had to re-think that. And if by standing up for what I think is right makes me an activist," she said, "I'm an activist."

— LISA KEEN

Clint Stelb

"This hasn't been an easy journey for me," said comedian Ellen DeGeneres.

Clinton's presence speaks louder than his words

Continued from page 1

have had the courage to ... bring your power to bear for an America where members of our community will no longer be bashed, or banished to the closet, or told to betray their own identity. President Clinton, you challenge all of that, and you can be certain that we will ask you to do more."

President Clinton apparently understood that the impact of his speech to the HRC dinner would not come from his choice of words but from his choice to be there.

"There are some people, who aren't in this room tonight, who aren't comfortable yet with you and won't be comfortable with me for being here," he said.

In fact, even before he got to the dinner Saturday night, NBC's Meet the Press host Tim Russert, taping an interview to be aired on Sunday, asked the president, "What statement are you trying to make" by being the "first sitting president in the history of the country" to attend a "gay rights dinner"?

"Well, Tim, you know, I grew up in the segregated South in the '40s and '50s," Clinton replied, "and all my life, from the time I was a child, I was taught and I have believed that every person in this country, no matter what their differences are in their lifestyle or their race or their religion, if they obey the law, show up for work every day or show up for school, if they're good citizens, they ought to be treated with respect and dignity and equality, and they should be subject to no discrimination in the things that we all have to have access to, like education and a job and health care.

"And what I'm trying to do," said Clinton, "is to continue to move that forward. I know this is a difficult issue for a lot of Americans. I know that, particularly for Americans who've never known anyone who's gay or lesbian personally, it's an issue that often arouses discomfort. But I think it's the right thing to do. I think we have to keep working until we say, for everybody, the only test should be, 'Are you a law-abiding, hardworking citizen; do you do the things we require of all citizens?' If you do, you should be subject to no discrimination, and you ought to be part of the family of America. That's what I believe, and if my presence there tonight advances that goal, then that's a good thing."

His closest gay aides at the White House, Socarides and Virginia Apuzzo, echoed that motivation later. Apuzzo, who had the opportunity to speak with Clinton during a briefing on the way to the dinner, said she relayed to the president that many gay people see his speech before the largest national gay political group in the country to be "very important."

"He said, 'This is important. I'm glad to do it'," recalled Apuzzo of the president's response.

Asked about Clinton's response to a question on Meet the Press about whether Clinton believes it is important that "homosexuality should be taught in schools as an acceptable alternative lifestyle," Apuzzo offered no apologies and attempted no spin.

Clinton told Russert, "No, I don't think it should be advocated. I don't think it should be part of the public school curriculum, but, on the other hand, I don't

Gephardt calls gay vote 'crucial'

House Minority Leader Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.) called a meeting with the leaders of eight gay political organizations on October 29.

A spokesperson in the Minority Leader's office said that the meeting was part of Gephardt's efforts to build coalitions that will help win back the House for Democrats in 1998. That same spokesperson said Gephardt feels the gay political groups are "a crucial part" of any winning coalition.

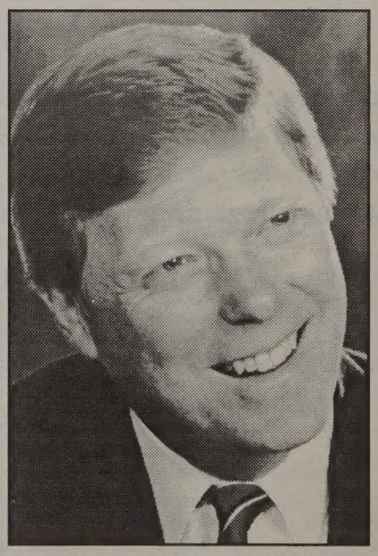
The leaders discussed a variety of issues with Gephardt, ranging from AIDS-related concerns to strategies for passing the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

Brian Bond of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund said one particularly important result of the discussion was Gephardt's assurance that gay Democratic congressional candidates will receive active support from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee in 1998.

Thus far, three openly lesbian candidates have declared interest in running for Congress. Wisconsin State Rep. Tammy Baldwin (2nd District) and San Diego City Councilmember Chris Kehoe (49th District) have launched campaigns already. Retired Army Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, the highest-ranking officer to challenge the ban on gays serving in the military, is strongly considering a run in Washington state's 2nd District. All three women are Democrats.

In addition to the Victory Fund, the groups that Gephardt invited to the meeting include: the AIDS Action Council; the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network; the Human Rights Campaign; the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum; the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; the National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization; and the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

— KAI WRIGHT



Rep. Richard Gephardt met with the leaders of eight gay political organizations.

Crowd cheers president

believe that anyone should teach schoolchildren that they should hate or discriminate against ... or be afraid of people who are homosexual. That is the real issue."

"That's what he believes," said Apuzzo. "He's talking about what he believes. I think it is a sign that the first sitting president comes and gives a speech before a gay and lesbian audience and affirms his commitment to lesbian and gay rights — that we're part of the fabric of society, an integral part of that society."

His speech was relatively brief by Clinton standards (he was allotted 35 minutes and took 23) and carried no late-breaking announcements of any new programs, grants, or appointments. He employed the most time-honored Washington formula: a colorful story from his early years, a quote from a well-liked previous president, and a string of ideas so broadly worded that they could represent either everything or nothing, depending on how they played in the press the next day.

"I want this to be a country where every child and every person who is responsible enough to work for it can live the American dream," he said to the HRC audience.

"If we're ever going to build one America," he said, "then all Americans ... have got to be a part of it."

He did make some gay-specific remarks.

"All America loses when any person is denied or forced out of a job because of sexual orientation," he said. "Being gay, the last time I thought about it, seemed to have nothing to do with the ability to balance a book, fix a broken bone, or change a spark plug."

For its part, the mostly white-skinned, black tie audience was enthusiastic in its response. No heckler called out for the president to explain why being gay had nothing to do with changing spark plugs but everything to do with changing the guard in the military. No one called out for an explanation of why the American dream can't include getting married for gay couples. Three people in the audience — reportedly from ACT UP/New York — did shout out something about "people with AIDS" during the speech. President Clinton seemed to relish the opportunity to show off his technique for handling such public inquiries and used the opportunity to tout his administration's record on AIDS funding.

The standing-room-only gathering interrupted Clinton's remarks with applause 25 times in 23 minutes — and seven were standing ovations. He received a particularly strong cheer when he said that discrimination based on ancestry, religion, race, gender, disability, and sexual orientation "is wrong and it should be illegal." One standing ovation was led by former U.S. Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-Wis.); another by actors Ellen DeGeneres and Anne Heche.

DeGeneres accepted an award from HRC later in the evening for her courage in coming out as gay this year — both in real life and as the title character in the ABC prime-time TV series Ellen.

The Human Rights Campaign also honored the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, a large coalition of civil rights and labor groups which has delivered strong support for gay civil rights on Capitol Hill, particularly around the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

In accepting the award Saturday night, LCCR Chairperson Dorothy Height and Executive Director Wade Henderson both emphasized the coalition's commitment to the gay civil rights movement. Height also offered a specific thank you to HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch "and what she has brought to LCCR."

But in all the celebration for the progress made by gay political organizations specifically and the Gay civil rights movement in general, Height also said the words that tempered the euphoria. She reminded the assembly that, although the civil rights movement saw progress in gaining affirmative action programs to help remedy the inequities of America's long history of racial discrimination, recent events have seen serious political and legal erosion against those programs.

"We still have a long way to go," said Height, who has been involved in the black civil rights struggle since her years with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "But," she added, "we have to go that way together. I assure you ... we will be with you in the struggle."

AIDS activists demonstrate outside Washington, D.C.'s Grand Hyatt Hotel, where President Bill Clinton was speaking to the Human Rights Campaign.

AIDS Digest

Virus associated with anal cancer

A study in the Nov. 6 issue of The New England Journal of Medicine reports there is "strong evidence" to indicate that anal cancers are sexually transmitted via the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). HPV is most commonly known as the virus which causes genital warts. It can lead to cervical cancer in women.

Generally speaking, cancer is not thought of as a disease that can be transmitted from one person to another. But a study by Danish and Swedish researchers found that 88 percent of 388 people with anal cancer (both men and women) also had HPV in their cancer tissue specimens. Control groups of more than 500 people who didn't have cancer and 500 people who had rectal cancer, showed no signs of HPV infection.

Interestingly, while past studies have associated anal cancer with men having sex with men, only 15 percent of the men with anal cancer in this study reported having had "homosexual contact" with another man —the same percentage as women who reported having had "anal intercourse" with a man. But because no man who didn't have anal cancer reported "homosexual contact," the researchers concluded that that evidence and a few other peculiarities (such as being unmarried, no history of hepatitis) "strongly support the idea that male homosexual contact is a risk factor for anal cancer." (By contrast, of the women who had engaged in anal intercourse, 15 percent had anal cancer, 10 percent had no cancer, and 6 percent had rectal cancer.) The investigators said they also found strong evidence to link "heterosexual promiscuity" to the likelihood of having anal cancer.

The study, said the researchers, "suggests that most anal cancers are potentially preventable."

Soft saq approved for the market

The Food and Drug Administration on Nov. 7 approved a soft gel formulation of the protease inhibitor saquinavir for marketing.

Marketed by Hoffman-LaRoche under the trade name Fortovase, the new formulation delivers more drug than the original hard tablet form (which is marketed as Invirase) and is considered a much better dose for treatment of HIV infection.

Some AIDS activists criticized the company in December 1995 for rushing to market with the lesser dose version –making it the first protease inhibitor to gain approval— rather than spending the additional time to come out with the truly effective dose first. According to an Associated Press report, Hoffman-LaRoche will sell the new stronger dose version at the same price as the original and plans to take the older version off the market in about six months. But the company said it would make the older version available to patients whose doctors advise against any change in their medications.

In brief ...

TRIPLE-DRUG, TRIPLE-BENEFIT: A study Nov. 7 in the British Medical Journal indicates that people with HIV who started taking triple-drug combinations that include protease inhibitors between 1995-96 have experienced a 65 percent reduction in risk of mortality compared to people with HIV who take no drugs. Two-drug combinations, according to the Swiss researchers who made the report after studying almost 5,000 people with HIV and their therapies, reduced the risk of mortality by 31 percent.

THRUSH ALERT: The National Association of People With AIDS issued an "Alert" this month to warn people that recent studies have found a form of the organism which causes thrush that is resistant to the standard drug to prevent and treat the opportunistic infection. The organism Candida albicans can cause thrush (also known as oral candidiasis) in people whose immune systems are badly impaired. The drug fluconazole is frequently prescribed both to prevent thrush from developing and to treat it once it has developed. NAPWA's November O.I. Alert suggests that people with AIDS consider discontinuing or delaying use of fluconazole until their CD4 counts drop below 200 or using intraconazole or amphotericin B. The Alert also notes that this drug-resistant form of Candida can be transmitted between people with HIV.

HEAD ATTACK: In a first-of-its-kind report, scientists in Italy say they believe a man became infected with HIV after having his head butted by another man during a traffic altercation. In the Nov. 7 issue of The Lancet medical journal, doctors at a scientific institute in Milan said the virus was apparently transmitted from one man when he smashed his head against that of another man who was wearing steel-framed glasses. The impact caused the glasses to cut into the victim's forehead and cause heavy bleeding. Because the victim tested negative for HIV antibodies for three days after the attack, then tested positive, and because the virus in both men looked very similar, the scientists concluded the HIV must have been transmitted by the head-butting. HIV transmission is generally thought to require much more intimate contact, such as sexual intercourse or blood transfusion.

—LISA KEEN

"Right now, I feel great. If I get sick, then I'll start taking the medicine."

If this is what you believe, then here's something new to consider.

You feel fine and take good care of yourself. That's why you might think it makes sense to start therapy only after you're sick—when you'll need it the most.

Not anymore. We now know that even if you look good and feel healthy, the virus is fighting every day against your immune system—a fight it may someday win.

VIRACEPT is a powerful new protease inhibitor now available for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. VIRACEPT is generally well-tolerated, is taken three times a day with your normal meals or light snacks, and requires no special dietary restrictions.

Most importantly, VIRACEPT is effective. In many people, VIRACEPT lowered the amount of HIV in the blood to levels below the limit of detection of the test used, and substantially increased CD4 cell counts after 24 weeks of triple combination therapy. And in laboratory studies, HIV obtained from five patients that became resistant to VIRACEPT was not resistant to other protease inhibitors. (The clinical significance of laboratory studies of protease inhibitor resistance and changes in viral RNA levels in blood has not been established for VIRACEPT. The virus may still be present in other organ systems.)

People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea in approximately 20% of people in clinical trials. There are some common medications and some AIDS-related medications you should not take with VIRACEPT. It is important to discuss with your doctor all other medications that you are taking.

We still can't make any long-term promises, since it is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. But we can tell you that yesterday's HIV beliefs are quickly becoming today's myths.

Talk to your doctor about VIRACEPT, and begin to consider something new. Or for more details, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit **www.agouron.com**.

VIRACEPT®
nelfinavir mesylate

Refer to the important information on the next page.

Agouron
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

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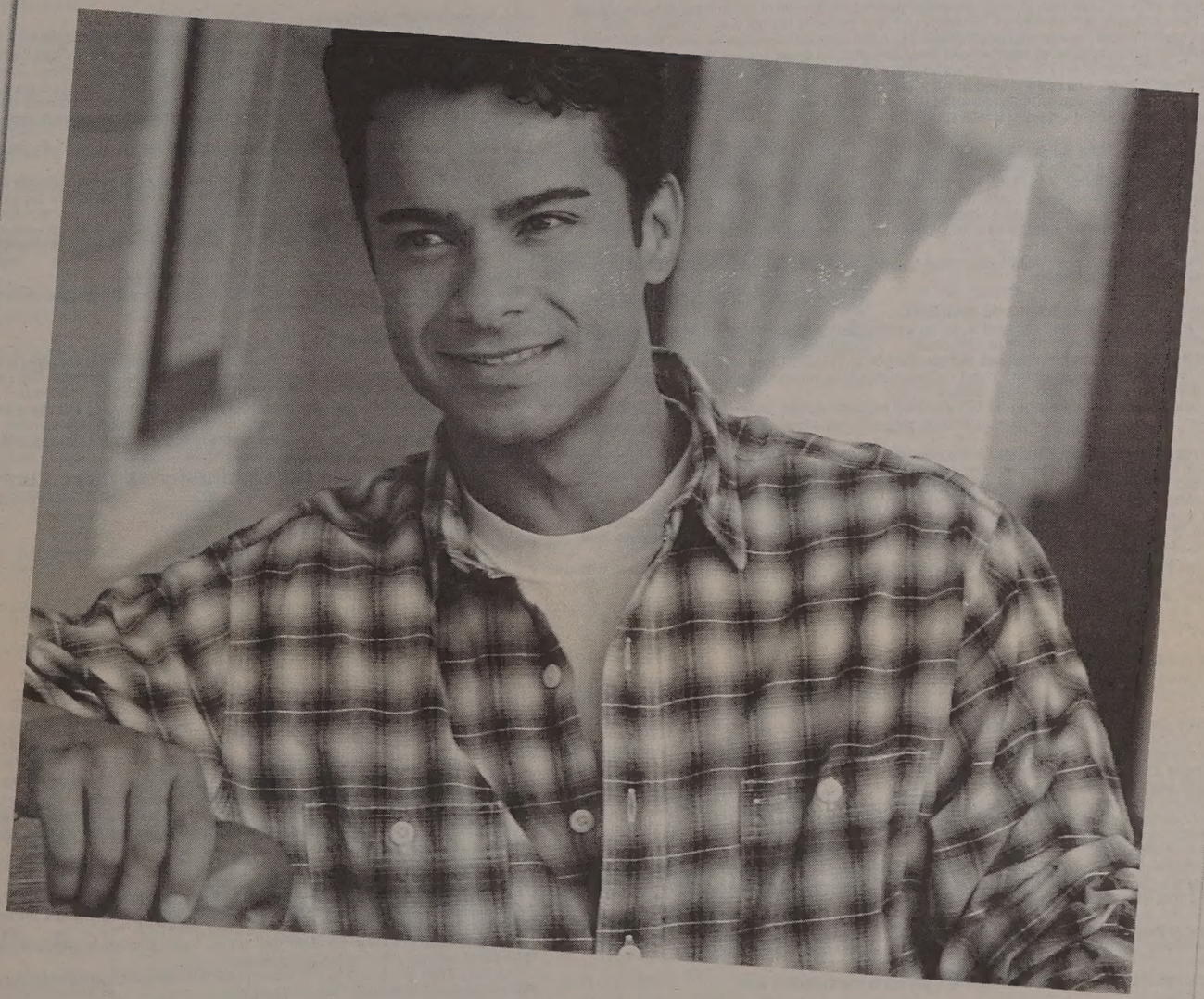

VIRACEPT®
nelfinavir mesylate

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept)
Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should <u>not</u> take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

  Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.
- Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

  This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

  These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

  If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)

  The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.
- Other NNRTIs

  VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)

  The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Norvir™ (ritonavir)

  The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.
- Invirase® (saquinavir)

  The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do **not** have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight Kg	Body Weight Lb	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
7 to < 8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	-
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1¼	-
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1½	-
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1¾	-
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	-
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2¼	-
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2½	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3¾	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: **A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication** should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do **not** mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do **not** heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do **not** add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Issued 10/7/97

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Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
La Jolla, California, 92037, USA

F R I D A Y

21 **CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH,** "Lesbian Voices" with guest speaker Jyl Lyn.Felman. 6:30 p.m. 57 Bethune St. Info, 212/929-9498

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT (GMAD), "The Write Stuff: Publishing Black Gay Literature." Writers Thomas Glave, James Earl Hardy, Brian Keith Jackson, G. Winston James, & agent Andrew Gillings will read and discuss. 8 p.m. Info, 212/420-0773.

IMPERIAL QUEENS & KINGS OF NY, the Allysonians perform at the Stonewall Club. 53 Christopher St. For time, call 212/229-1968.

SAGE, women's 50+ rap group, 7:30 p.m. Women's 40+ rap group, 7 p.m.

W E E K L Y E V E N T S

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, gay men's issues. 8:30 p.m.

GAY ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER NY, 8-10 p.m. 212/802-RICE

GAY MEN'S OPERA CLUB, listen to & discuss recordings. 8-10 p.m. 212/691-5993.

INCEST AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS ANONYMOUS, regular mtg. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

MEN OF COLOR TOGETHER, promotes multiculuturalism. General mtg. 8-11 p.m. 212/330-7678.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 6 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, gay Dignity regular mtg. 8 p.m.

PSYCHOLOGY DISCUSSION GROUP, 8-10 p.m. $5. 212/228-5153.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS, call for a listing of events. 212/439-1123

SHARING IN LESBIAN KINSHIP, social discussion group. 8-10 p.m. Bellmore Presbyterian Church, 2740 Martin Ave., Bellmore, NY 11710. For info, 516/ 935-7967.

SISTAHS IN SEARCH OF TRUTH, ALLIANCE, HARMONY (SISTAH) support for Bi/L Women of color. 5:30-8 p.m. 479-7886.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST ANONYMOUS, women's beginners. 6-8 p.m.

USS NORTHSTAR NCC-10462, Star Trek Fan Assoc. chapter. General membership, 8-10:45 p.m. Cpt. Mike at The Center, 212/620-7310x325.

S A T U R D A Y

22 **ASIAN/PACIFIC ALLIANCE,** Mr. & Miss Asian/Pacific Beauty Pagent. 8 p.m. The Center's Network Room, 208 W 13th St., 3rd Floor. Call for admission price & info. 718/699-5922.

CENTER DANCE, "Disco Classics." $6 for students, seniors, $8 regular admission. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Info, 620-7310.

COMMUNITY LUNCH PROGRAM at Park Ave. Christian Church, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.) 2:30 p.m.

FRONT RUNNERS NY, 9:45 a.m. Central Park 72nd. Call to confirm. 212/724-9700.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT (GMAD), "Heterosexual Day". Bring a hetro friend & get to know one another. 4:30 p.m. GMAD, 133 W 4th St. (6th Ave. & Washington Sq. Park). Info, (212) 420-0773.

WORKSHOP FOR GAY MEN, "Holiday Season Dating Strategies." 2-4:30 p.m. $10. Reservations are suggested. Info, 212/691-5574.

W E E K L Y E V E N T S

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, struggle for intimacy. 10 a.m.

AL-ANON, GLAD g/l discussion. 8 p.m.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS, open mtg. 6 p.m.

LIFE DRAWING SEMINAR, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 201/792-9619.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, open gay mtg., 5 p.m. Sat. night fellowship, 10 p.m.

PERSONAL CONNECTIONS meet men interested in a LTR. Suggested donation, $5. 8 p.m.

PHILOSOPHY CLUB, discussion group. 3-5 p.m. 201/798-9566.

PRIME TIMERS, general mtg. for mature men. 2-4 p.m. 212/929-1035.

QUEER STORIES, Gay men's workshop for storytelling and performance. $5. 12:30-2 p.m. Tom, 212/505-7066.

SCA-ANON, 6 p.m

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS, call for events. 212/439-1123.

SOUTH ASIAN LESBIAN & GAY ASSOC., (SALGA) 3:30-5:30 p.m. 212/294-2555.

TRANSGENDER HEALTH EDUCATION CLINIC, primary care 11a.m -3 p.m. By appt. Peer counseling, 11a.m. -3 p.m.walk-in.

S U N D A Y

23 **GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT (GMAD),** book club discussion of Gossip by Christopher Bram. 5 p.m. Call GMAD infoline for location, 212/420-0773.

GRACE OASIS MINISTRIES, gay Pentecostal worship. Service, 6-9 p.m. Coffee hour, 9-10 p.m. Info, 718/284-0179.

UNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, Sunday services. St. Mary's Church, Classon Ave. at Willoughby St. in Brooklyn. For info, 718/636-5646.

W E E K L Y E V E N T S

AL-ANON, Sundays at The Center. 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, call for a listing of events. 212/647-1680.

CH'I' KUNG, gentle exercise. $2. 6-7 p.m. 201/746-7686.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS, meditation, 11:30-12:15 p.m. Topic, 12:30 p.m.

DEBTORS ANONYMOUS, 12:15 p.m.

FAST AND FABULOUS CYCLING TEAM, Sunday ride. Call to confirm, 212/567-7160. Or rjn2@columbia.edu

GRAND SLAM BRIDGE GROUP, 2-5 p.m.

516/989-8226.

IDENTITY HOUSE SUNDAY NIGHT MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, 7-9 p.m. 212/243-8181.

KNIGHTS WRESTLING GROUP, men's wrestling. 2:30-5 p.m. 718/639-5141.

METRO GAY WRESTLING ALLIANCE, 2-5 p.m. 212/563-7066.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 2:15 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, lesbian mtg. 12:30 p.m., gay men 7 p.m.

SCA-EN ESPANOL, COMPULSIVOS SEXAULES ANONIMOS 7 p.m. 212/388-9124.

AGENDA

upcoming events in the community

Artistic license

All sorts of creative types will gather at the Out on the Edge Together Festival, a chance for gay writers, musicians, and visual artists to meet and perform. Participants are asked to bring a sample of their work. The festival will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 16, at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. Admission is $2, and beverages are available for $1. For reservations and information, call (212) 886-4566.

Asian pride

Those who can't get enough of beauty pageants should take heart: the Asian/Pacific Alliance of New York is sponsoring a Mr. and Miss Asia pageant. The event features men and women competing in four categories: national costume, swimwear, eveningwear, and interview. Winners will appear at the APANY Christmas party on Dec. 20. The evening also features entertainers like Edwin Yangga of the New York City Gay Men's Chorus. The pageant will start at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22, at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St., third floor. For more information, call (718) 699-5922.

Nights on Broadway

Theater lovers should check out Broadway Night Out, a social group of gay men and lesbians who enjoy seeing shows in a gay crowd. On Friday, Nov. 21, the group plans to see Secrets Every Smart Traveler Should Know, a musical comedy that makes light of the inconveniences encountered while traveling. The group will meet for dinner at 6 p.m., then head to the theater for the 8 p.m. curtain. The cost of the tickets is substantially reduced for members. For more information about Broadway Night Out, call (212) 289-1741.

Absolutely fabulous

Cold weather doesn't keep sports-minded folks indoors. These chilly days are prime time for the Fast and Fabulous Cycling Team and the Front Runners. These organizations host a variety of cold weather events in addition to their regular weekend outings, and welcome all gay people regardless of skill level. Utilizing the great terrain at Central Park, Front Runners do the "Fruit Loop" on Saturday mornings, while the cyclists take the curves on Sunday mornings. For more information about the Fast and Fabulous Cycling Team, call (212) 567-7160 or send e-mail to rjn2@columbia.edu. Those interested in the Front Runners should call (212) 724-9700.

Center book sale

New York's Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center is more than just a place for meetings. The Pat Parker/Vito Russo Library, located in the Center, is a wonderful place to crack a book and spend an afternoon. From 6 to 9 p.m. on Nov. 17 through Nov. 20, the Center will hold a book sale to benefit the library. The Center is located at 208 W. 13th St. For more information, contact the library at (212) 620-7310.

Interview with Paul Rudnick

The New York Advertising and Communications Network and the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association will present an evening of laughs with Paul Rudnick, who has written the screenplays for movies such as In and Out and Jeffrey. Eric Marcus, who co-wrote Greg Louganis' Breaking the Surface, will conduct the informal interview. The event starts with networking at 6:30 p.m., and the interview will begin at 7:30 p.m. A social hour follows at 9 p.m. The event costs $5 for members and $8 for nonmembers. The event will be held on the third floor of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. For more information, call (212) 462-9255.

Anniversary service

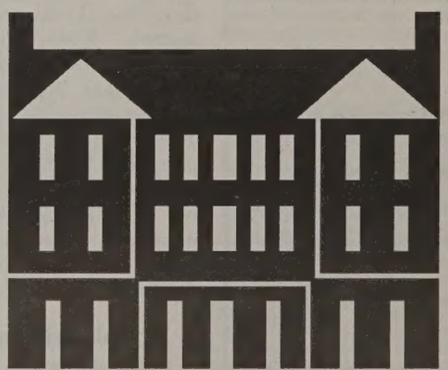
Louie Crew, a professor at Rutgers University, will preach at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 14, in honor of the first anniversary of Integrity/Staten Island. Founded by Crew in 1974, Integrity is a worldwide organization dedicated to increasing gay involvement in the Episcopal Church. The service will be held at the Church of St. Andrew, located at 40 Old Mill Rd. in Richmond Town on Staten Island. For more information about Integrity/Staten Island, call (718) 273-9708.

They started it

Nearly three decades have passed, but the memory of the Stonewall Riots in 1969 still burns brightly for many people. The Stonewall Veterans Association is trying to raise money to build a Stonewall Veterans Monument in Sheridan Square. To help achieve the goal, the group will hold a fundraiser at the Stonewall bar at 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 21. There will be music and a performance by Queen Allyson and the Allysonians. A donation of $10 is suggested. Stonewall is located at 53 Christopher St. in Greenwich Village. For more information, call (212) 627-1968.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

The Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center of NEW YORK



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Classifieds

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CALL FOR PLAYS for lesbian & gay theater festival. Winners receive full productions in May. Send SASE for guidelines to NRL; 27 Peck Slip; NYC NY 10038.

RESEARCH ON CAREGIVING for those over 65: Call to have survey mailed to you. Nurse in doctoral study. (800) 260-7577.

WWW.GAYNYC.NET NYC's newest * gay & lesbian business, organization, social, & events guide. Are you listed yet? Now featuring a virtual mall. Web page design & hosting also avail.

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CASHIER / SALESPERSON, FT/PT. New CD store opening in the West Village. Must have knowledge of dance, techno, jungle. Cashier exp necessary. Must have résumé & optimistic, pleasant personality. Call (212) 673-4606 after 11am Mon-Fri.

HOTEL FRONT DESK Small gay hotel, customer svc/computer exp a +. Five days incl nights/weekends/holidays. 35-40 hrs/wk. Salary to $20,000 + exc benefits. Letter/résumé to PO Box 30145, Dept MB; NY NY 10011.

HOTEL HOUSEKEEPER Small gay hotel, general cleaning/maintenance. Five days incl weekends/holidays. 35 hrs/wk. $9/hr + exc benefits. Letter/résumé to PO Box 30145, Dept HB; NY NY 10011.

SALES ASSOCIATE NEEDED GIORGIO ARMANI BOUTIQUE & HIRSHLEIFERS BOUTIQUE in Manhasset are looking for exp sales associates. Store hours are 10:00-6:00 Mon through Sat & 12:00-5:00 Sun. Base salary + commissions on all sales. Fax résumé to Shelley at (516) 627-3579 or call (516) 627-7337.

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GROUPS

"FOR WOMEN ONLY: Women to Women." Looking for open-minded/creative, supportive women volunteers to help develop & establish a Muse Dream Team Company of women in the arts; photo, film, theater, dance, music & alternative lifestyle production w/ a personal approach. Contact JRD; 19 S Summit St; Pearl River NY 10965.

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FRED'S NIGHT OUT, the social club. The only HIV+, multi-ethnic, social club for Gay men & their friends. New members welcome. (212) 802-7286.

MALE COUPLES OF MIXED HIV STATUS: The Couples Project offers group workshops designed to reduce psychological distress & improve couple satisfaction. Also includes paid research interviews, (212) 740-3505. All calls confidential.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, weekly meetings for GBM. Fridays 8pm at The Lesbian & Gay Community Center; 208 W 13th St. For info call (212) 420-0773.

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TRAVEL / INTERNATIONAL

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AMPHIBIOUS HORIZONS, INC offers sea kayaking in the Sea of Cortez in sunny Baja, Mexico. 9-day trips Jan thru Mar. Swim w/ sea lions, hike the arid world, get lost in the stars & overwhelmed by beauty. Emphasis placed on skills development & good eats. (Louisiana & Chesapeake Bay, too.) (888) I-LUV-SUN or e-mail amphibius@aol.com

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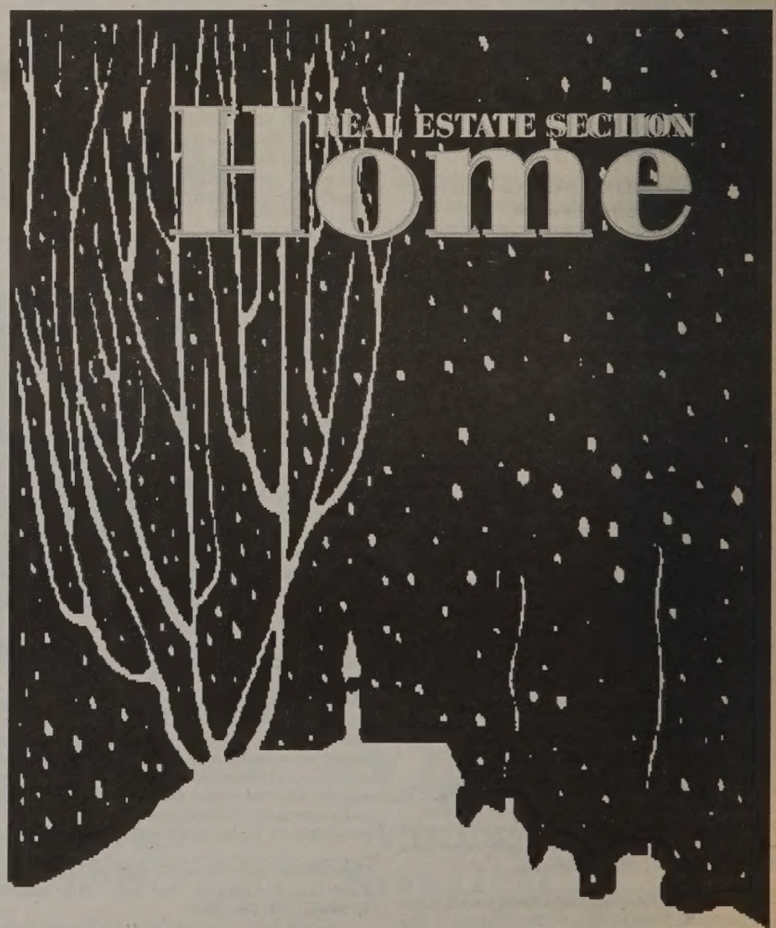

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Classifieds

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MASSAGE

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COUNSELING / SUPPORT

RUTH LEVINE, CSW, psychotherapist. Offices in New Paltz & Woodstock. (914) 334-2008. Office in NYC on Upper West Side, (212) 665-6189. Individuals, couples & families.

MAUREEN MCGOVERN, Ph.D., psychotherapist. Individuals, couples, groups, most insurance accepted. (212) 253-0455. Initial consultation no charge.

THERAPIST MICHELE FRANK, CSW. Offers recovery workshop for adult survivors of child sexual & physical abuse. For info call, (212) 957-9376.

LESBIAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP. We welcome cancer patients & offer full support. Meetings 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6pm at the Center.

COMPASSIONATE PSYCHOTHERAPIST can help you overcome problems w/ relationships, sexuality, self-esteem, depression, anxiety; cope w/ losses & illness; live a more rewarding life. Trained, licensed, experienced. Sliding scale. Absolute confidentiality. Gramercy Park. Lawrence Bloch, C.S.W., (212) 387-8855.

LESBIAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP. We welcome cancer patients & offer full support. Meetings 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6pm at the Center.

INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN IDENTITY. Psychotherapy for the lesbian/gay/bi-sexual/transgender community. Individual, couple, group counseling. Non-profit, sliding scale fees, in-surance accepted. 160 W 24 St; NYC. (212) 243-2830.

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BY MAIL
Deadline: Wednesday, 1 p.m.
Rate: 60¢ per word.
Payment: check, money order, Visa, MC.
Address:
The New York Blade News
242 West 30th St., 4th Floor
New York, NY 10001

DISCOUNTS
- DEDUCT 10% from total cost of ad if it is scheduled for 10 or more insertions (consecutive or alternating weeks).
- DEDUCT 20% from total cost of ad if it is scheduled for 20 or more insertions (consecutive or alternating weeks).

PREPARING YOUR AD
- Use 8½" by 11" paper.
- Type or neatly print ad text.
- Specify insertion date(s) & desired classification.
- Include full name, address, & daytime telephone number. *The New York Blade News* will not accept ads without this information; it will be kept strictly confidential.

TO FIGURE CHARGE:
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TOTAL: _____

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- The first 2 or 3 words of your ad may appear in boldface capital letters. Choose an eye-catching opening. For vacation ads, begin with location. For employment ads, begin with job title.
- A "word" is: any group of letters or numbers surrounded by spaces. For a term containing a hyphen (-) or slash (/), count 2 words if the term exceeds 8 characters (including the hyphen or slash). Thus, the phone number "268-2704" counts as 1 word, while the term "drug-free" counts as 2.
- Do not write your ad only in capital letters. Specify which words are proper nouns & should be capitalized.
- If you require assistance computing charges for your ad, call Classifieds during office hours for a rate estimate.

CLASSIFIED POLICIES
- 7-word minimum for all classified ads.
- All classifieds subject to standard abbreviations.
- No ads accepted containing explicit sexual references or crude language.
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- We reserve the right to edit, categorize, or refuse ads submitted for publication.

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OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE at SOLO ARTS GROUP, INC. 13' X 13' space for rent. $500/mo. Great for acting coach, small production company or artist studio. Kevin, (212) 463-8732.

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Payment: Visa/Mastercard only.
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Rate: 60¢ per word.
Payment: Visa/Mastercard only.
E-mail: classads@nyblade.com

BY MAIL
Deadline: Wednesday, 1 p.m.
Rate: 60¢ per word.
Payment: check, money order, Visa, MC.
Address:
The New York Blade News
242 West 30th St., 4th Floor
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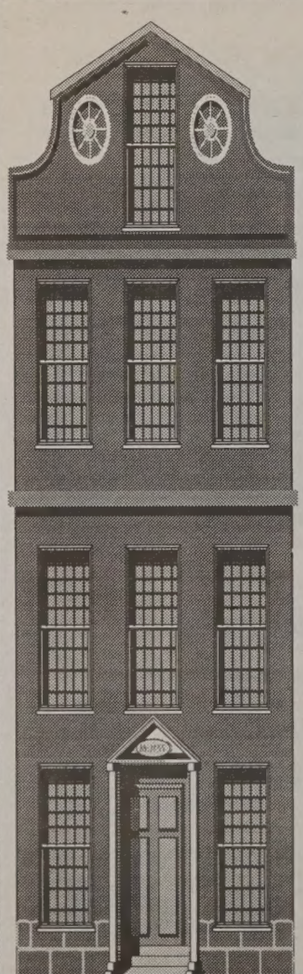

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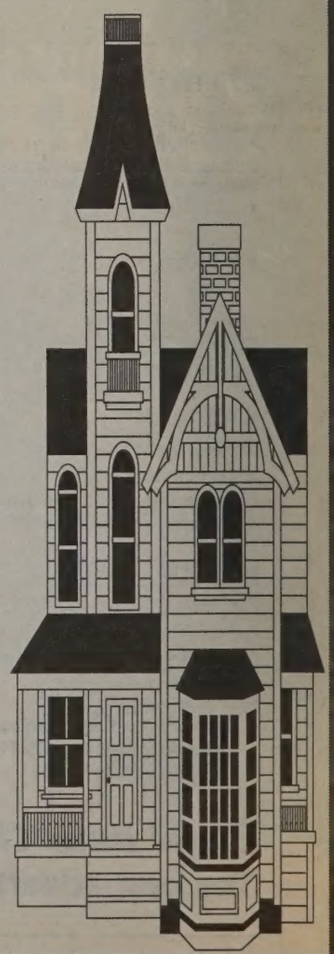

BladE Personals

FRIENDS

BROADWAY BUDDY Piano bar aficionado looking for pals who like to stand around a piano & sing. Must like Hart more than Hammerstein & "Oh, Kay!" better than "Oklahoma!" No Andrew Lloyd Weber, please. Out&Line 1043 (12/05)

PERSONALS / WOMEN

DON'T BOTHER answering this ad if you just enjoy" things in life. You must BE someone & DO what you love, hate personals, love women & yourself, be a bad-ass beautiful artist who has a greater vision & five senses of humor. GWF, 25, writer-performer, seeks the impossible. (Yes, of course I smoke.) Out©Line 1037 (12/05)

GWF, 47, affectionate, loving, up-front & realistic. SO GF 30+ for getting to know each other & exploring our opportunities for friendship & more. Out©Line 1034 (12/05)

GWF, 28, looking for friends, especially in the Bronx for movies, going out & having fun. No drugs, bi's or unstable people. Out©Line 1013 (11/28)

GWF OVER 50 on spiritual path, metaphysical/Catholic, seeks spiritual companion/friend. Please have a good sense of humor, love animals, be a nonsmoker. Out©Line 1011 (11/28)

GWF SOFT BUTCH, 40+, seeks W or H feminine lady, 40-50+. I give 100% in a relationship, looks unimportant. In your heart is where it counts. Loving, caring, w/ a good sense of humor. No bi's or butches, smokers OK. Out©Line 1022 (11/28)

VERY ATTRACTIVE AF, slender, 5'3", feminine, seeking very attr, slender, kd lang types. Out©Line 1029 (11/28)

A NEW BEGINNING SWF seeks SF friend & companion to enjoy movies, dining out, home cooking, long chats & car trips to Atlantic City. If you are kind, loving & caring, please reply. No drinkers or drugs, cigarette smoker OK. Manhattan, Westchester, Bronx, Queens only. Out©Line 1004 (11/28)

SEARCH FOR LOVE GBHF, english-speaking, enjoy many cultures & my own. I am a mother, spiritual, 32, 5'7", full-fig-ured, shapely, gym-going, motivated entrepreneur. ISO dyke. You are humble, giving, sweet, family-oriented & ruler of my heart. I understand & respect your lesbianism as a dyke. I am very giving of myself. Out©Line 1007 (11/28)

BBF SEEKING GF for friendship, intimate moments or more. Race, weight not a problem. Bi's welcome. Drug-free & healthy. Looking for someone who enjoys life. All responses will be answered. Out©Line 1008 (11/28)

BBF IS SEEKING to make friendships w/ other gay males. Let's explore to the fullest. 5'9", race unimportant. Must be drug-free & healthy. Enjoy going out to clubs, movies, dining & Atlantic City. Out©Line 1018 (11/28)

BWF SOFT BUTCH Strong sense of self, prof, athletic, attr & independent. Seeks femme w/ same qualities. Free time spent outdoors. Will try anything. Into antiques, the arts, comedy clubs, travel, metaphysics & a higher level of awareness. Excellent sense of humor, high energy, sensuous, sexy & playful. Out©Line 1017 (11/28)

BWF LATE 40s This puttytat needs affection. Love to cuddle and converse. Enjoy art, music, ethnic foods, and more. Brooklyn a+, no smokers. Out©Line 1009 (11/28)

WHERE'S MY SOULMATE? Big, cuddly, soft, butch GBF, 33, seeking femme, B or H, 27-45, for deep meaningful relationship. I'm ready to settle down, how about you? No first timers, no bi's, no butches. Drug-free & healthy.Out©Line 1016 (11/28)

LET'S BUILD on a good foundation. SBGF, 34, ISO well-rounded, centered individual who knows what she wants. Must be honest, no head games. Should be fun, intelligent, spontaneous, w/ various interests. No butches or bi's. Drug-free, healthy. Out©Line 1028 (11/28)

GWF, 37, very pretty Italian-American, tall, well-built, dark br/hzl. Prof in high-tech field. Live in Manhattan. I am sensual, sexy, sincere, fun-loving, very romantic & caring. I am looking for love & friendship. No bi's. Out©Line 1027 (11/28)

STATEN ISLAND GWF, 30, prof, attr, bl/bl, feminine, 5'6", 155#, great sense of humor & personality, many hobbies. ISO other GF's, 18-30, race unimportant, for friendship & fun. Must have great sense of humor & personality. Nonsmoker, non-drinker, drug-free, healthy. All answered. Out©Line 1026 (11/28)

CRAZY, SEXY, COOL Attr BiBF, down-to-earth, loves shopping, movies, restaurants, bars & clubs. ISO H or B Bi- or Bi-curious feminine F, age 21-30, 140-165#, educated, down-to-earth, sexy, enjoys having a good time. Drug-free, healthy. Car a must. Discreet, no butches or dykes. Brooklyn a +. Out©Line 1014 (11/28)

GWF, 5'4", 49, attr, charming, romantic, enjoys candlelight dinners, dancing, movies. Looking for a feminine GWF w/ a touch of class. Ages 35-50 respond. Let's see what life has in store for us. Will you be that special woman that I've been looking for? No bi's, butches or smokers. Out©Line 1023 (11/28)

PERSONALS / BISEXUAL

BiBF VEGETARIAN looking for same, 40+. Interested in coffee bars & jazz.Out©Line 1015 (11/28)

LOOKING FOR BUTCH woman. Sensitive, outgoing, someone who likes to go out, to exercise, candlelight dinners, romantic walks in the park. Looking for a serious relationship. Race unimportant, 35+. Out©Line 1006 (11/28)

GWF 40s serious bodybuilder, attr, down-to-earth, sincere, intelligent, seeks GF into bodybuilding w/ a muscu-lar physique & similar qualities for gym buddies, friendship or possible relationship. Out©Line 1025 (11/28)

FEMME SEEKING SEXY femme. I am 5'5", 125#, attr, w/ long br curly hair, grn eyes. Seeking similar, GHF, ht/wt proportionate, drug-free, nonsmoker, honest, w/ sense of humor. I enjoy dancing and have a heart of gold, a very respectful woman. Out©Line 1010 (11/28)

ROMANCE A MUST BiBF, 44, intelligent, great conversation, great sense of humor, lover of life, honest, trustworthy, nonsmoker, drug-free & healthy. I like R&B, travelling, romantic times, cooking. Seeking similarities: 37+, African-Black-American or African inter-racial, friendship for starters. Out©Line 1074 (12/12)

PERSONALS / MEN

SEXY GWM 5'7", Middle-Eastern/deep South background, 170#, VERY young 50, piercing brown eyes, gorgeous black hair, tender, w/ sense of humor, butch top seeks honest, secure, fun, straight-acting HIV-neg, GWM or GAM bottom, 20-35, for friendship and (hey, you never know!) relationship. Inexperienced OK. Interests: you, romance, arts (theater, film, music), travel, working out, biking, hiking, boating. Nonsmoker. No drugs. Out©Line 1080 (12/19)

TAURUS GBM, HIV+, 32, 5'10", 155#, romantic, independent, masc, versatile, introspective, loves intense conversations. Looking for same, GBM to cuddle w/. Relationship oriented only. Out©Line 1079 (12/19)

OPEN TO INTIMACY . . . the challenge to love & create a family . . . I'm 6'2", 175#, br/grn, healthy, hiv+, a GWM in my 40's . . . smart, artistic, sane w/ a crazy streak. (Family Tree: English, Irish & some Native American, leaving me a bit repressed w/ a yearning to go on the warpath while wearing a kilt!) Things I can't give up: Independence, music, the gym, humor, sensitivity, movies, paris, strong coffee, strong spirit, Arizona, cinnamon raisin toast, generosity &, oh yes, intimacy. You should possess &/or appreciate most of these things. The toast is negotiable. Out©Line 1075 (12/19)

GAM WANTED by GWM, 35, bl/bl, 170#, 5'11". Looking for friendship & more. Into massage, clubs, etc. Out©Line 1077 (12/19)

ME: DARK HAIR, moustache, bike jacket, boots & 501s. You: jeans, t-shirt, sneakers & great smile. Gdlkg, easy-going guy seeks smooth little brother for safe mutual fun. Any race OK.Out©Line 1078 (12/19)

YES I AM HIV+, discreet GBM, early 20s, ISO meaningful relationship w/ GWM or GPRM 27+. So let's go on a romantic journey together making each day better than the last. Out©Line 1071 (12/12)

5'11", MUSC, GBM, 33, athletic build. Seeking African-American man, 27-45, who is a nonsmoker, musc, healthy, masc, no drugs, no sexual hangups. Downtown Brooklyn a +. Out©Line 1070 (12/12)

HIV+ GBM Handsome, artistic & active. ISO HIV+ GPRM or other people of color to share good times. I look for-ward to life & each day & people are very special to me. Not interested in baggage, bad attitudes, or hustlers. I am down-to-earth, honest & in need of that special someone to complete the circle. We can be friends, buddies or more. Out©Line 1066 (12/12)

GHM LOOKING FOR GBM. 135#, 5'5", gdlkg, HIV-neg, looking for a top, 35-50, down-to-earth, HIV-neg. If interested, please call. You will not be disappointed. Out©Line 1065 (12/12)

BIG, HUGE, MUSC, blond, 6'6", 260#, 27, hot, well-endowed, handsome. Seeks sincere, honest, mature, older, prof gentleman for friendship, companioship, possible long-term monogamous relationship. Out©Line 1062 (12/12)

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE GWM, 28, 5'10", 150#, br/br, down-to-earth, in-shape, into movies, music & hanging out. Looking for other 20-something GM for friendship & a possible relationship. Out©Line 1061 (12/12)

FROM DC 38, 6'3", 220#, nicely built, salt & pepper hair, br eyes, Italian/Cherokee/Scot/German mix (okay, a mutt), bottom. Looking for person who is a loving, patient, caring top; enjoys conversation & learning new things; likes kids (in fact, I have them). Out©Line 1053 (12/05)

GWM, GOOD-LOOKING, not into the club scene. Seeking a top 30-42, Italian or Hispanic preferred, who is a mixture of seriousness, caring & fun. I'm 38, 6', br/br, HIV+, 185#, w/ many interests, a lot to give & tired of being alone. Out©Line 1052 (12/05)

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT, SINCERE GWM, 6'1", 47, 180#, br/br, seeks in-shape to thin GWM 22-46 for friendship and/or a possible relationship. Out©Line 1051 (12/05)

BIG & CUDDLY Heavyset GWM, 5'11", 310#, 35, br/grn, Southern gent new to NYC seeks nice Yankee guy. Out©Line 1076 (12/19)

GAM LOOKING FOR bear for friendship & more. I'm 5'8", 145#, 33, sincere & honest. My hobbies incl traveling, cooking, music, movies & a lot more. ISO Jewish & heavy men. Out©Line 1050 (12/05)

To Respond to a Blade Personal ad with

OutLine

Call ✆1(900) 884-0318

Call costs $1.95 per minute. Must be 18 or over.
Touch-tone phone only. Blade Classifieds. (212) 268-2701

BLADE Personals

GLM SEEKING GLM or GBM, 25+, who is in shape. I'm 6', 165#, br/br. Looking to have fun. Drug-free & healthy. OutⓒLine 1046 (12/05)

TOUR GUIDE WANTED I've recently made the big move to NYC & want to see more than the Statue of Liberty. Stats: 32, bl/bl, 5'8", 150#, go to gym but not obsessed, like offbeat theater, spirited conversation & city adventures. If you know the city & think we might hit it off, give a call. OutⓒLine 1044 (12/05)

PROF GBM, 35, 5'11", 155#, athletic, domestic, homebody, very handsome w/ personality. Enjoys good times, quiet times, friends, sports on TV, dining in/out, 501's, boots, communicating, laughing, dancing, and most of all making hot, passionate love. ISO GM, 30-40, versatile, athletic, fun. OutⓒLine 1040 (12/05)

FRIENDSHIP, COMMITMENT, RESPECT GBM, 33, Brooklyn, 5'11", 200#, 36"waist, clean-cut, masc, laid-back, drug-free & healthy. My inner qualities are kind, compassionate, caring, intelligent, spiritual. I enjoy most music, movies, books, walking around town, doing stuff, quiet times at home & more. ISO GM between 20-35, good-natured. Excellent boyfriend material. OutⓒLine 1041 (12/05)

VERY HANDSOME, INTELLIGENT, preppy GAM in DC. I am a student, 5'8", 136#, fit, model, boyish, great smile, nice, conversant, versatile. Enjoy movies, travel, music, workouts. ISO athletic, musc, smooth GWM or GAM, 18-30, nice, masc, clean-cut/-shaven in NY for mutual visits, good times, friendship or more. Willing to travel.OutⓒLine 1039 (12/05)

GWM, 34 Good-looking Italian, 6', 180#, closeted, masc, sports fan. Seeking very good-looking GWM, 28-35, 5'-5'10", slim build, very masc, smooth a +. Looking for a relationship. No games. Staten Island a +. OutⓒLine 1038 (12/05)

GAM WANTED Asian bottom wanted by Italian-American, 30, 5'8", 145#, nonsmoker, top, HIV-neg, drug-free & healthy. Searching for Asian bottom for possible relationship. Thai a big +. OutⓒLine 1036 (12/05)

MID-WEST GWM in DC. 26, 6', 175#, br/bl. "Guy-Next-Door-Type." Gym 4x/wk. Masc/mature. Prof web designer. Inter-ests: creativity, graphic design, comics, animation, collecting music, "Kids In The Hall" humor. Enjoy going out, but too many interests for the scene. You: 25-30, similar ht/wt, interests/humor, very handsome/masc, mature prof. OutⓒLine 1035 (12/05)

GWM, 43, 5'10", 155#, hard body, seeks similar for relationship. Manhattan location, many varied interests, work 3-11, M-F. OutⓒLine 1031 (12/05)

RING, HELLO? Mr. Right, please. STEVEN WRIGHT? Mr. Right. FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT? The man of my dreams. PERHAPS A DESCRIPTION. Smart, funny. A PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION. Smooth face, nice body. WHO'S CALLING? GWM, 33, w/ Steven's humor & Frank's creativity. REALLY? No, just thought it would read better in the Blade. OutⓒLine 1030 (12/05)

MY WORLD . . . Enjoy world music, world food, world cinema . . . my unworldly side? Not into money, status, attitude. I am a GWM, 39, 5'9", 175#, bookish, leftish, gentle. ISO GM, 25-39, nonsmoker, kind & friendly. OutⓒLine 1012 (11/28)

NICE JEWISH BOY, 29, looking for WM or BM 18-35. I am 5'3", slim, cute, well-read, honest, prof, HIV-neg, funny & love NY. I can take gay scene/circuit or leave it at this point. You should be gdlkg & want to date. OutⓒLine 1073 (12/12)

GJM, 30, CARING, intellectual w/ sense of humor. Enjoys running, vegetarian cooking, etc. Seeks compatible but not necessarily similar GJM, 25-40. OutⓒLine 1063 (12/12)

GLANCES / MEN

PARTING GLANCES... They can be exciting, romantic, intriguing. Check out Glances to see who's looking for you. (Sorry, but Anniversaries, Birthdays & Bulletin Board ads, no matter how cleverly written to read like Glances ads, will be moved to their appropriate sections.)

WEST SIDE CLUB You: From Mexico City. Me: Blond who barely said a word. Now I'm ready to talk. Are you? OutⓒLine 1042 (12/05)

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Call ✆1(900) 884-0318

Call costs $1.95 per minute. Must be 18 or over. Touch-tone phone only. Blade Classifieds. (212) 268-2701

Reach over 50,000 readers weekly!

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FALL IN LOVE!

Get up to **$15 OFF** any **Blade News Personal ad with OutLine** using this coupon, throughout **November!**

Fill out this form and mail to:

Blade News Personals with OutLine
The New York Blade News
242 West 30th St., 4th Floor
New York, NY 10001

or FAX to: **212-268-2069**

Check one:

- ❑ **Friends**
- ❑ **Personals/Women**
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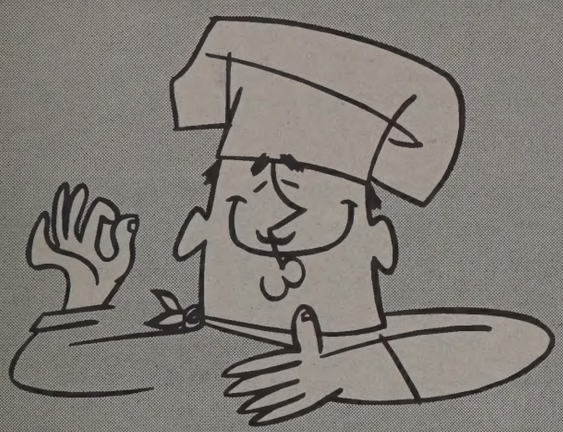

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Birth of *Venus*

Charlene Cothran enjoys magazine's 'growing pains'

See page 6

Cruise control

Congressmembers rankled by Cayman Islands action

See page 8

NEW YORK Blade NEWS

Final frontier

Susan Wright goes where no writer has gone before

See page 21

Legislators begin push for HIV reporting

AIDS groups say GMHC should speak out more forcefully against reporting of names

BY KATIE SZYMANSKI

AIDS and civil rights organizations this week expressed anger toward Gay Men's Health Crisis for releasing a statement in favor of new HIV surveillance procedures without strongly opposing the practice of names reporting.

In a reversal of its longstanding policy favoring anonymous testing, GMHC announced this week that the organization now recommends that doctors report people with HIV to the State Health Department.

The organization's announcement, critics said, will make it easier to pass upcoming legislation that would require that names, not codes, be used to identify people with HIV.

GMHC — which has for years opposed reporting those who have HIV because it had concerns that such reporting would deter people from getting tested and seeking treatment — said this week that changes in the epidemic have made tracking the AIDS virus impossible without an HIV reporting system.

Currently, New York counts only the number of individuals who develop full-blown AIDS. Hospitals, laboratories, and physicians report only the patient's defining characteristics, such as age and how the patient likely acquired the virus ("Men having Sex with Men," intravenous drug abuse, etc.). These reports are made to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for inclusion in national statistics. But these reports reflect only people who have full-blown AIDS and do not indicate how many cases of HIV are being transmitted. Without such information, argue some, public health officials do not have a clear picture of where prevention programs or services designed to provide drugs for early treatment are needed most.

"Counting only those who are hospitalized reveals yesterday's epidemic, not today's," said Ron Johnson, GMHC's managing director of public policy, communications, and community relations.

Johnson said data on the number of people infected with HIV would help keep track of how the virus spreads and which populations are most affected. The data, he said, could be used to distribute funding for services for populations that are not getting enough funding.

"Adolescents, young gay males, people of color, women, and injection drug users have been ignored by government-funded prevention programs," GMHC

Continued on page 15

By Michael Wakefield

"Our concern is, we don't want to go some place where there's no turning back," said Catherine Hanssens of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Timothy R. McVeigh indicated he was gay in a supposedly confidential profile.

Is privacy still online at AOL?

BY PETER FREIBERG

Without identifying himself, a Navy investigator asked America Online for information about a sailor who subscribed to the service. Without asking for identification, an AOL staffer gave out the information. The result: A much-decorated Navy veteran was set to be discharged from the service last night under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

That version of events, described in a hearing on Navy charges against Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy R. McVeigh, has raised fears among gay and other AOL subscribers about how seriously the nation's largest online service protects the privacy of its members.

According to the hearing transcript, the Navy investigator was able to find out from AOL that a screen profile in which the member had written "gay" in a category called "marital status" belonged to Timothy R. McVeigh, a much-decorated, 17-year veteran. (He is no relation to convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy J. McVeigh.)

"If confidential information was given out incorrectly to a third party," says John Aravosis, a lawyer, Internet consultant, and adviser to McVeigh, "I think people should be very concerned. What if someone's employer did not want to have gay people around? What if your employer wants to find out if you're gay? Should they be able to call up an online service and get private information about you to see if you're gay? I should hope not."

David Sobel, legal counsel to the Electronic Privacy Information Center, says, "I think it's tragic. Through its apparent violation of its own privacy policy, AOL may have destroyed this man's life."

McVeigh told the *Blade* that he was "surprised" at AOL's action.

"The testimony at my [hearing] says that AOL gave out information...that led to my discharge," said McVeigh. "I know that's a violation of AOL's Terms of Service, and I'm very disturbed by that."

But officials at AOL assert there is no evidence their staff did anything wrong.

"I will tell you that our policy is very clear," AOL spokesper-

Continued on page 13

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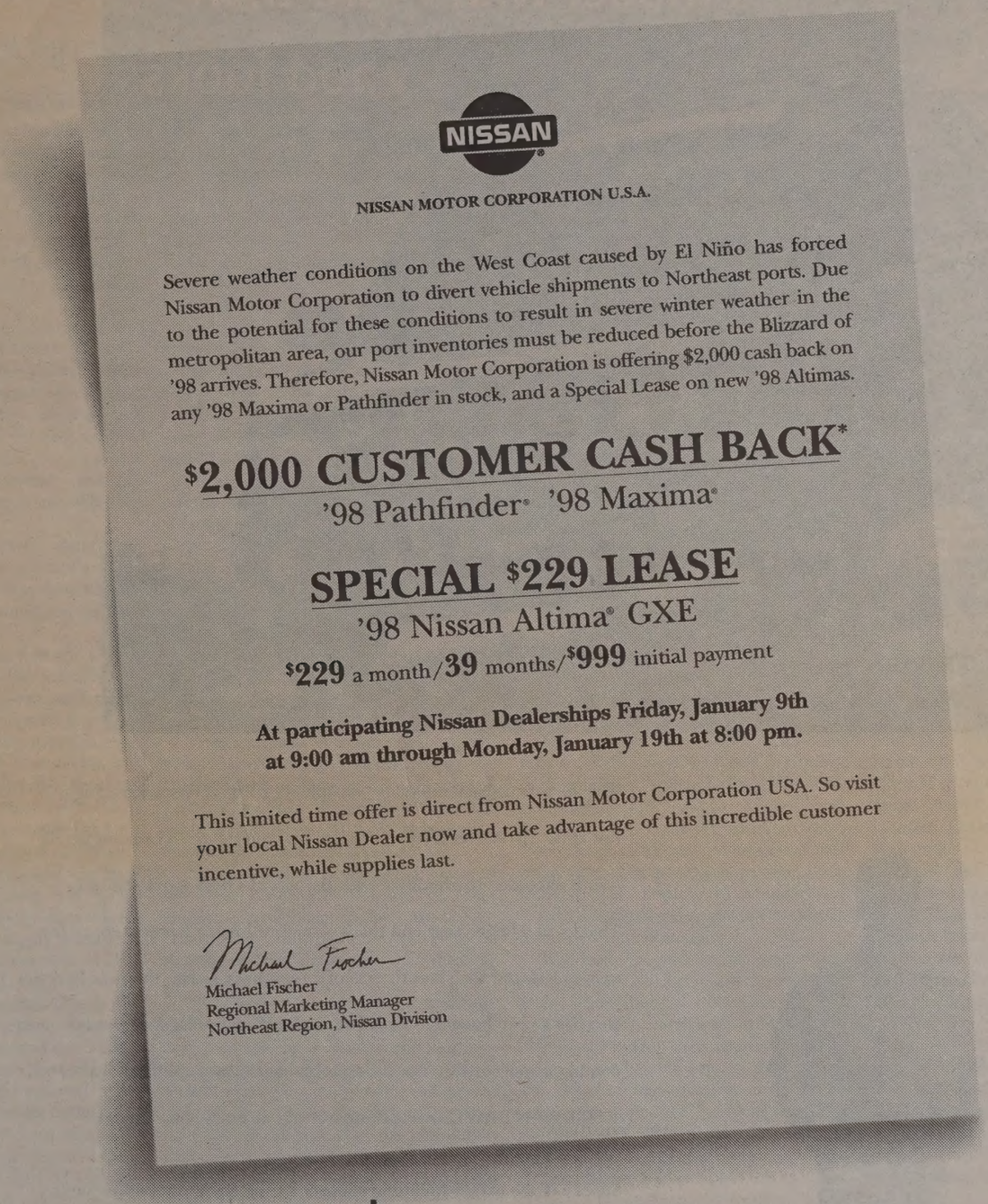
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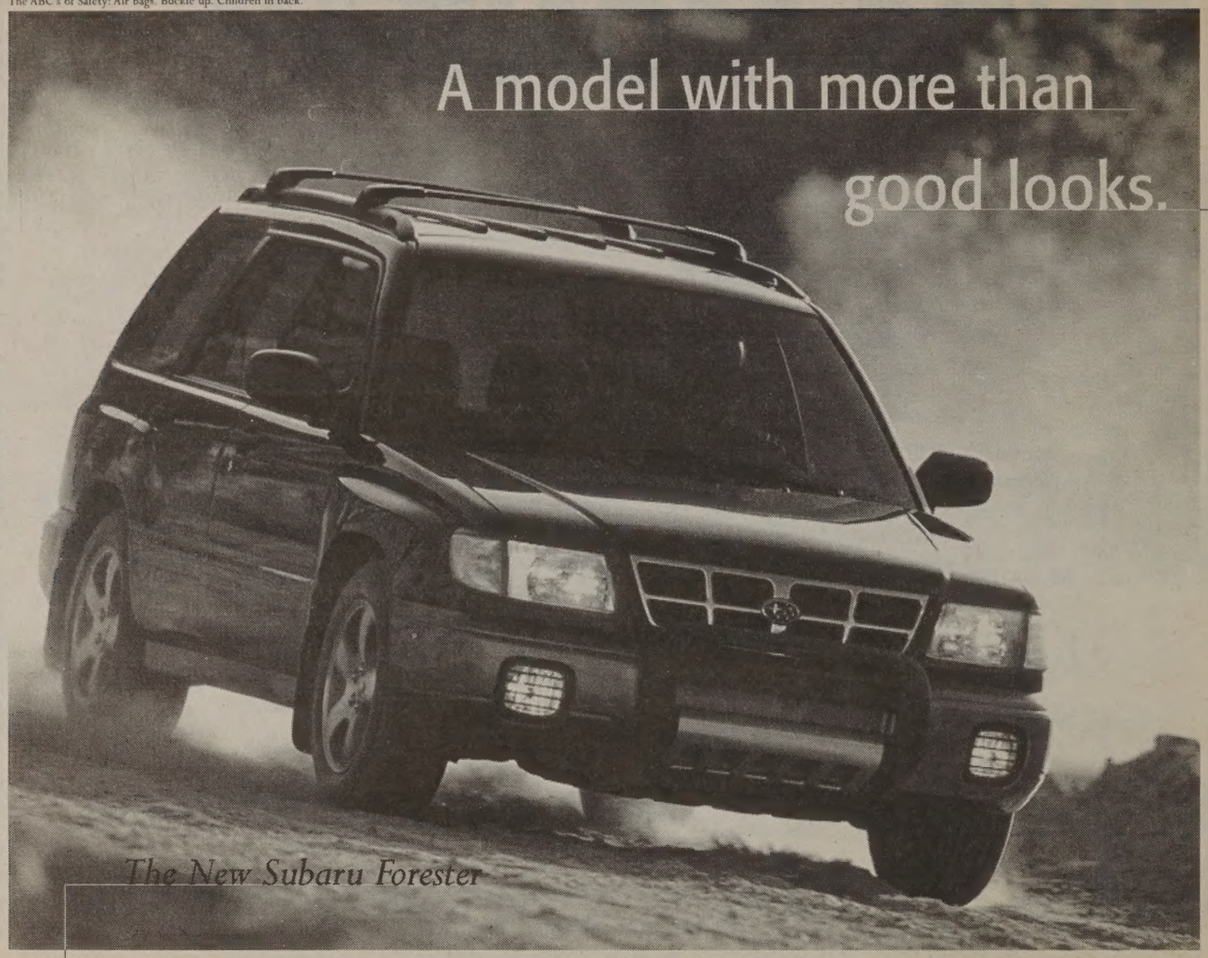

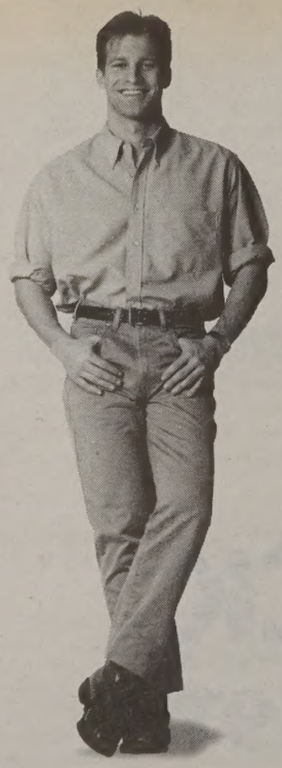

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Religion

New York Presbyterians fight back

Renegade group wants to repeal the denomination's nationwide ban on gay clergy

BY CHRISTINE DINSMORE

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church announced last April the passage of an amendment barring gays from serving in the church. In a swift and definitive response, Presbyterian churches in New York City formed Presbyterian Welcome to challenge what they called an attack on Christian principles from fundamentalists within the church.

Immediately after the passage of the Fidelity and Chastity Amendment, 50 congregations throughout the United States signed a "Covenant of Dissent" vowing that they would ordain ministers, deacons, and elders regardless of their sexual practices. New York City's Jan Hus Presbyterian Church re-ordained its lesbian and gay elders soon after the General Assembly vote became official.

Now this renegade group, along with Presbyterian churches throughout the United States, is going to bat for an amendment being voted on now that would overturn the ban on gay clergy.

By their own admission, passage of their amendment will be more like a single with runners on base, tying the game, rather than a home run to put them over the top.

The "Fidelity and Chastity Amendment," also called Amendment B, is an ecclesiastic law requiring all Presbyterian deacons, elders, and ministers "to either live in fidelity within the covenant of marriage between a man and a woman or chastity in singleness." To challenge it, gay Presbyterians and their supporters proposed a new law, called Amendment A, which calls for church leaders "to live in fidelity and integrity in marriage or singleness and in all relationships of life." (Since amendments are labeled by the order they are proposed each calendar year, the Fidelity and Chastity Amendment is Amendment B because it was the second amendment of 1997. Amendment A is the first of 1998.)

In spite of this being championed by the national group, Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, supporters of Amendment A admit that it does not change the 1978 General Assembly's policy called "Definitive Guidance." That policy barred the ordination of gays who are not celibate. The original edict did, however, allow gay clergy who were ordained prior to the 1978 ruling to continue their service to the church.

"Amendment A does not go nearly far enough," said the Rev. Clifford Frasier, the openly gay minister at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church on East 74th Street. "Amendment A is a first step."

Although not optimistic that the new amendment would change the prohibition, Frasier said that he believes that if Amendment A passes it will take the wind out of the sails of the fundamentalists' movement.

Although there are gay Presbyterian clergy who came out after they were ordained, they have remained in limbo since they are unable to move between parishes, according to Frasier.

He gave as an example the Rev. Jane Adams Spahr, a lesbian who has never served as pastor in the Rochester, New York, parish that appointed her. In 1991, the Presbyterian Church overturned her appointment after 14 clergy and one elder challenged an open lesbian serving as pastor. After several appeals, the Downtown United Presbyterian Church failed to appoint her as pastor but instead appointed her to lead a group called That All May Freely Serve, which educates church members about inclusion.

If Amendment A passes next month, Frasier admits it won't officially change the Presbyterian's position on the ordination of gays, but it will take Amendment B out of the church's constitution and "it will empower the movement of inclusion in the church."

The Rev. Robert Stuart, a gay pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Amagansett, a small village in the Town of East Hampton, is more optimistic about what the passage of Amendment A would mean to gays within the church.

"The subject is open to interpretation," said Stuart. "On the face of it, the 1978 guidance prohibits the ordination of self-affirming, practicing homosexuals. But if Amendment A would pass, any pending case or cases brought up to test the 1978 ruling — in light of Amendment A — the prohibition would be ruled unconstitutional."

A church in Sag Harbor in Long Island ordained a gay man about a year and a half ago and the Presbyterian Court upheld the ordination on a technicality, said Stuart. In their ruling, seven of the 15 judges said that the 1978 guidance was unconstitutional, he added.

By Jake Price

The Rev. Clifford Frasier, the openly gay minister at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church on East 74th Street, supports the "resolutions of dissent" nailed to his church's door.

Stuart said that he believed that ruling was the reason fundamentalists pushed for passage of Amendment B.

Last April, the church passed Amendment B by a simple majority, all that is required by their bylaws. Although the presbyteries, or dioceses, voted 97 in favor of the amendment and 74 opposed, the actual count was much closer, said Frasier. When actual individual votes of the presbytery members were tallied, 13,238 voted in favor of Amendment B and 12,542 opposed or abstained, a 51 percent to 49 percent margin.

Nationally, the push to pass Amendment A has included the forming of the Shower of Stoles, where liturgical stoles have been collected from gay church leaders. Many of the clergy have hidden their sexual orientation or have been banned because they are gay. The stoles have messages denouncing the discriminatory position of the official church. Of the nearly 400 collected stoles, three-fourths have kept the clergy's identity anonymous.

"As a pastor, it sometimes feels as if I am crossing a bridge to meet someone and, just as we are about to embrace in the middle of the bridge, the center falls away," reads an inscription on a stole from a lesbian minister. "And so, I must ask that my name not be used. Someday perhaps when 'all may freely serve.'"

Six churches in Manhattan, Brick Presbyterian Church, Central Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church, Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, Rutgers Presbyterian Church, and Trinity Presbyterian Church, and two in Brooklyn, First Presbyterian Church and Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, make up Presbyterian Welcome.

In October ordained clergy nailed "resolutions of dissent" to the Jan Hus Presbyterian Church on East 74th Street. The 112 statements remain nailed to the church door.

In spite of their work, some church activists are skeptical that Amendment A will pass. So far, of the 14 presbyteries that voted, 10 have voted against it, according to the Rev. David Cockcroft, the retired gay pastor of Riverdale Presbyterian Church in the Bronx.

The minister said that it's difficult to drum up much passion for the passage of Amendment A. Not all liberal Presbyterians are joining the team, he said. But he is not ready to give up.

"This is not only a sexual orientation issue," said Cockcroft. "It's more about social justice."

United Methodist clergy rebuke Church's policy

BY CHRISTINE DINSMORE

More than 1,300 United Methodist clergy signed a "statement of conscience" last week rebuking the Church's position that homosexuality is "incompatible with Christian teaching."

The Rev. Gregory Dell of Chicago announced the signing last week.

"We believe that this is only the beginning of the movement within our denomination and others," said Dell, "to reclaim the gospel of grace and inclusiveness from forces of mean-spirited legalism and distorted literalism."

Of the 15 ministers who drafted the statement, three are connected to New York City — the Rev. Gilbert Caldwell, the former pastor of St. Mark's United Methodist Church of Harlem; the Rev. Takayuki Ishii, pastor of the Metropolitan-Duane United Methodist Church on West 13th Street; and the Rev. George McClain, the executive secretary of the Methodist Federation for Social Action in Staten Island.

Among the six points made by the document is support for "liturgical commitments" between same-sex couples and the ordination of gays as ministers.

The November suspension of the Rev. Jimmy Creech of the First United Methodist Church in Omaha, Neb., for performing a commitment ceremony for two women sparked the challenge to the United Methodist's policy toward gays. The church renewed the original 60-day suspension last Friday while awaiting the beginning of a formal hearing.

The United Methodist Church has sent mixed messages to its members, according to Dell. On one hand, church officials have stated that "homosexuals are of sacred worth," yet on the other they forbid church unions of same-sex couples and refuse the ordination of gays.

"The church is conflicted about this," said Dell. "The real issue in our statement is to say, 'Look, it's not just a couple of kooks. We represent a significant part of the church.' We've come to a different conclusion. If our position is unfaithful to their position, can we be put out of the church?"

The clergy vow to continue to push this issue, said Dell. He insisted that, as in other denominations, the issue of inclusiveness of gays is not going away.

CITY DESK

Queens

Murder linked to love triangle A Queens woman was charged last week with setting fire to her female lover's apartment and killing a man who was also dating the lover, according to the New York Police Department.

Teresa Miller, 38, of the Far Rockaway section of Queens, was allegedly acting out of "jealous rage," according to a spokesperson for the police department.

The fire, which was also in the Far Rockaway neighborhood, killed Fredrick Smith, 47, of Queens, who apparently tried to escape the blaze and whose naked body was discovered in a bathtub, police said.

Miller surrendered the following day at the 101st Precinct station and was charged with second-degree murder and second-degree arson, according to the police source.

—ROBERT DAVID SULLIVAN

Manhattan

Bernstein lover files suit An ex-lover of composer Leonard Bernstein has filed a $2 million bias suit against New York University Medical Center, charging that he was harassed by co-workers for two years for being gay, and then fired in retaliation for reporting the harassment.

According to New York Supreme Court documents, Mark Taylor said he became the target of homophobic remarks from co-workers when a 1994 biography about the composer identified him as "the last love of Bernstein's life." Taylor said a copy of the book circulated through the hospital with Post-it notes flagging each reference to him. He also claims that in 1995, a colleague at the hospital, Peter Ferrara, made a disparaging public remark about gays.

Ferrara said the incident Taylor refers to involved Ferrara making fun of the NYU basketball team's name, the Violets.

"I said, 'They might as well call them the Pansies,' and he got upset," said Ferrara.

Taylor charges that when Ferrara was promoted to senior director of public affairs in 1997, Ferrara fired him in retaliation for reporting the remark to hospital officials. But Ferrara told the *Blade* that he was not Taylor's supervisor and did not fire Taylor.

Michael O'Neill, Taylor's attorney, said that although his client did not report directly to Ferrara, his salary and office were in Ferrara's jurisdiction. He said documentation would prove that Ferrara fired Taylor for being gay.

"There is somebody sitting in his chair at his desk doing the things he used to do," said O'Neill. "Maybe they renamed his position."

—KATIE SZYMANSKI

Manhattan

Drag queen reported missing The New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project is urging the community to assist in the investigation of the disappearance of a member of the transgendered community last weekend.

Freddie Messina, better known as Cosmetica, or Cosmo, was last seen by a friend at 5:45 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, at an after-hours club near Bleecker Street and 7th Avenue. Messina phoned family members later that day but did not mention where he was staying.

Messina, an employee at Lucky Cheng's, an East Village restaurant famous for its drag wait staff, did not show up for a shift on Saturday. That is when family members became alarmed, according to Maura Bairley, volunteer coordinator and community organizer at AVP.

Messina, described as a 24-year-old, dark-skinned Latino with long brown hair and brown eyes, is known to hang out at drag clubs in the East and West Village. Messina, who was wearing a wrap top with a cobweb print and short green shorts or a skirt when last seen, has pierced ears and a noticeable gap between his front teeth.

AVP is asking that people with any information about Messina's whereabouts call them at (212) 807-0197.

—CHRISTINE DINSMORE

Venus gives voice to black gays

First-time publisher delights in monthly's 'growing pains'

BY KATIE SZYMANSKI

When Charlene Cothran first read *BLK*, a national magazine for the black gay community, she was relieved to find that the images inside were not of "limp-wristed" black gays. Finally, she said, someone had produced a publication that reflected her life.

"I held onto that copy for dear life," she said. "It was all I could find for myself."

This experience prompted Cothran, a woman with no experience in the publishing industry, to launch *Venus* in 1994.

"I knew nothing about publishing, but I had great sales experience," said Cothran, who spent 15 years as a real estate broker in Atlanta. "I knew how to sell advertising, which has been the lifeblood of this business."

Cothran, who is 39, said she left the real estate business because activism was taking a bigger role in her life. An activist in Atlanta's black gay community for several years, Cothran helped launch various black gay organizations and events, including the city's annual Bayard Rustin Rally — an event honoring the black gay civil rights leader.

She said she realized that black gay culture was burgeoning but that the media didn't seem interested in covering the story. Even Atlanta's gay publications, she said, seemed focused mainly on white gays.

irculation of 20,000 in the Atlanta area has grown to a glossy, full-color monthly magazine with a national circulation of 35,000, said Cothran. She has plans to increase the press run to 50,000.

"We have the kind of growing pains every publisher prays for," said Cothran.

Fans say the birth of *Venus* came at just the right time. About the time it hit the streets, *BLK* ceased publication (although it still maintains a Web page).

Keith Boykin, executive director for the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, an advocacy group in Washington, D.C., said *Venus* fills a void left by both black and gay publications.

"*Venus* offers a different perspective from mainstream African-American media and mainstream gay media," he said. "When the mainstream media pays attention, the result will be more mainstream coverage of this community — and not just during Black History Month."

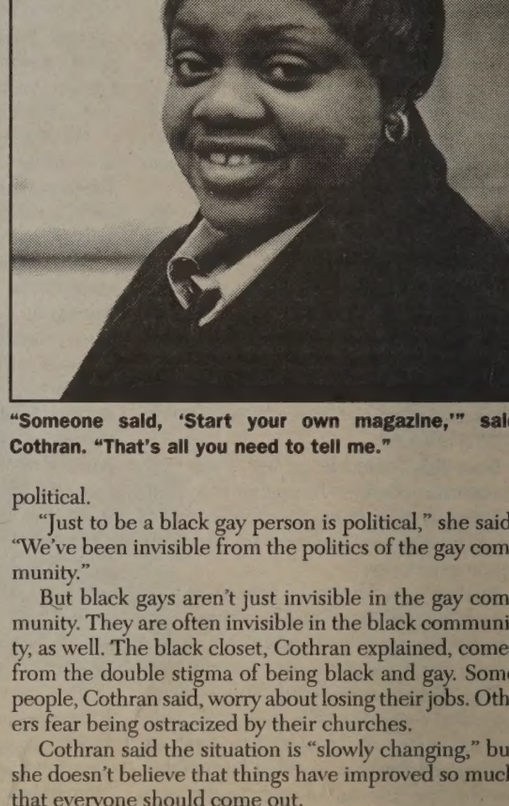
A native of Trenton, N.J., Cothran lived in Atlanta from 1976 until last June, when she moved herself and *Venus* to Hastings, N.Y. She spends much of her time in Manhattan, working with designers, marketers, and writers.

"I've never seen so many black gay writers in my life," she said, remembering that many writers in the Bible Belt would "run the other way" when she sought their help for her publication.

Because Cothran has no editorial experience, she hires a guest editor each month to coordinate its features on arts, politics, health, travel, and news. The magazine is completely written by freelancers, some of whom are solicited for their expertise on certain subjects. Cothran said it might take a couple of years before she has the finances to hire a permanent, full-time editor.

This month's issue, on the shelves at Barnes and Noble and gay-friendly bookstores, features the gay marriage debate — what black gays think about the issue, and what socioeconomic factors influence these views. Kim Kirkley, an attorney who recently worked for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the group behind the legal challenge for same-sex marriage rights in Hawaii, wrote the cover story.

While not every issue focuses on political issues like same-sex marriage, Cothran said the magazine is always political.



"Someone said, 'Start your own magazine,'" sai Cothran. "That's all you need to tell me."

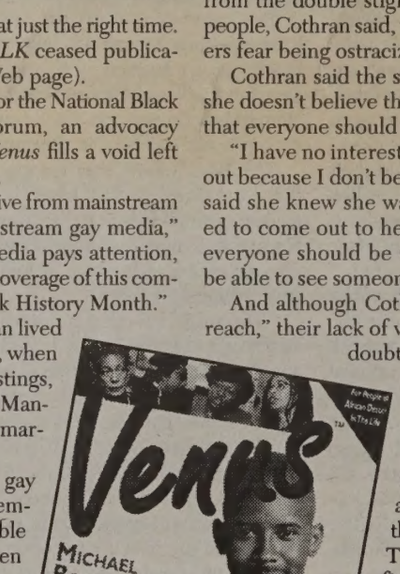
"Just to be a black gay person is political," she said "We've been invisible from the politics of the gay com munity."

But black gays aren't just invisible in the gay com munity. They are often invisible in the black communi ty, as well. The black closet, Cothran explained, come from the double stigma of being black and gay. Som people, Cothran said, worry about losing their jobs. Oth ers fear being ostracized by their churches.

Cothran said the situation is "slowly changing," bu she doesn't believe that things have improved so muc that everyone should come out.

"I have no interest in saying everyone should com out because I don't believe that's so," said Cothran, wh said she knew she was gay at the age of 13 but wait ed to come out to her mother until she was 30. "Bu everyone should be OK where they are. You shoul be able to see someone like yourself and say, 'It's OK.'

And although Cothran said black gays are "easy t reach," their lack of visibility has left some advertiser doubtful.



"It is hard to convince adver tisers that this population ever exists," Cothran said. She said tha since black gays are reluctant t fill out their addresses on survey and subscription forms, there is lit tle documentation of their numbers This makes selling advertising dif ficult, since advertisers want t make sure they are reaching a viabl market.

"But advertisers are coming around, out of a need to reach thi niche market," said Cothran, who feel she has been successful in proving to the world that there is indeed a large blac gay audience.

Cothran believes the magazine wil help along this change, particularly based on the response she has received from the black het erosexual community.

"Straight black people will pick up the magazine fo a gay friend at work, or give it to a mother who want to kick her gay son out of the house," said Cothran. "I helps to educate them about who we really are."

Most importantly, though, Cothran said *Venus* is a affirmation for black gays and their culture.

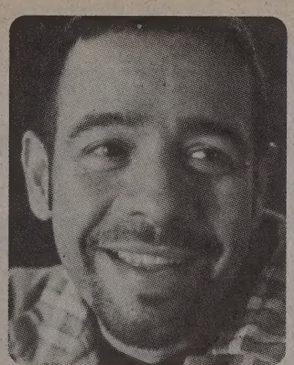
"We can see ourselves and not be ashamed," she said "This is a magazine you can leave on your coffee table and let your grandmother read."

If you are experiencing disease-related weight loss and are finding it difficult to regain the weight, OXANDRIN may be an answer.

OXANDRIN is an oral treatment that is available by prescription from your doctor. OXANDRIN helps stimulate the rebuilding of protein tissue in the body and promotes weight gain.* OXANDRIN should be used in conjunction with proper nutrition and exercise.

Now... a different treatment to help you gain weight

To find out more about OXANDRIN, ask your doctor or call 1-800-741-2698.



"Since I've been on OXANDRIN, I feel like I have my life back."

Jamie L.—
An actual person taking OXANDRIN

OXANDRIN should be used only as directed by your physician.

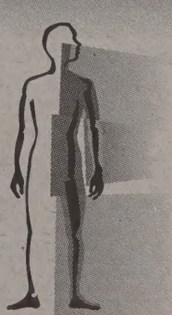
Precautions and Warnings from the OXANDRIN® (oxandrolone, USP) CIII Package Insert

In patients receiving androgenic anabolic steroid therapy, **1)** peliosis hepatis, a condition in which the liver and sometimes splenic tissue is replaced with blood-filled cysts, has been reported; **2)** liver cell tumors are also reported; **3)** blood lipid changes that are known to be associated with increased risk of atherosclerosis are seen. See Warnings and Precautions sections of complete prescribing information.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: 1) known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast; **2)** carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption); **3)** pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose; **4)** nephrosis of nephrotic phase of nephritis; **5)** hypercalcemia

OXANDRIN®
oxandrolone, USP CIII
2.5 mg tablets

The answer to disease-related weight loss*



*After weight loss due to extensive surgery, chronic infection, severe trauma, failure to gain or maintain normal weight without definite pathophysiologic reasons, or protein catabolism due to prolonged corticosteroid administration.

OXA-1635 ©1996 BTG Pharmaceuticals.
Please see important information on the following page.

A05268-1

C III

BTG PHARMACEUTICALS

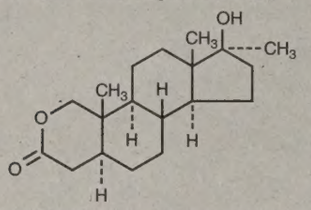
OXANDRIN®

(oxandrolone tablets, USP)

Revised: Aug. 30, 1996

DESCRIPTION

Oxandrin® oral tablets contain 2.5 mg of the anabolic steroid oxandrolone. Oxandrolone is 17β-hydroxy-17α-methyl-2-oxa-5α-androstan-3-one with the following structural formula:



Inactive ingredients include cornstarch, lactose, magnesium stearate, and hydroxypropyl methylcellulose.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Anabolic steroids are synthetic derivatives of testosterone. Certain clinical effects and adverse reactions demonstrate the androgenic properties of this class of drugs. Complete dissociation of anabolic and androgenic effects has not been achieved. The actions of anabolic steroids are therefore similar to those of male sex hormones with the possibility of causing serious disturbances of growth and sexual development if given to young children. Anabolic steroids suppress the gonadotropic functions of the pituitary and may exert a direct effect upon the testes.

During exogenous administration of anabolic androgens, endogenous testosterone release is inhibited through inhibition of pituitary luteinizing hormone (LH). At large doses, spermatogenesis may be suppressed through feedback inhibition of pituitary follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH).

Anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins and decrease high-density lipoproteins. These levels revert to normal on discontinuation of treatment.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Oxandrin is indicated as adjunctive therapy to promote weight gain after weight loss following extensive surgery, chronic infections, or severe trauma, and in some patients who without definite pathophysiologic reasons fail to gain or to maintain normal weight, to offset the protein catabolism associated with prolonged administration of corticosteroids, and for the relief of the bone pain frequently accompanying osteoporosis (See **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**).

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Oxandrolone is classified as a controlled substance under the Anabolic Steroids Control Act of 1990 and has been assigned to Schedule III (non-narcotic).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

1. Known or suspected carcinoma of the prostate or the male breast.
2. Carcinoma of the breast in females with hypercalcemia (androgenic anabolic steroids may stimulate osteolytic bone resorption).
3. Pregnancy, because of possible masculinization of the fetus. Oxandrin has been shown to cause embryotoxicity, fetotoxicity, infertility, and masculinization of female animal offspring when given in doses 9 times the human dose.
4. Nephrosis, the nephrotic phase of nephritis.
5. Hypercalcemia.

WARNINGS

PELIOSIS HEPATIS, A CONDITION IN WHICH LIVER AND SOMETIMES SPLENIC TISSUE IS REPLACED WITH BLOOD-FILLED CYSTS, HAS BEEN REPORTED IN PATIENTS RECEIVING ANDROGENIC ANABOLIC STEROID THERAPY. THESE CYSTS ARE SOMETIMES PRESENT WITH MINIMAL HEPATIC DYSFUNCTION, BUT AT OTHER TIMES THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIVER FAILURE. THEY ARE OFTEN NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING LIVER FAILURE OR INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG USUALLY RESULTS IN COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF LESIONS.

LIVER CELL TUMORS ARE ALSO REPORTED. MOST OFTEN THESE TUMORS ARE BENIGN AND ANDROGEN-DEPENDENT, BUT FATAL MALIGNANT TUMORS HAVE BEEN REPORTED. WITHDRAWAL OF DRUG OFTEN RESULTS IN REGRESSION OR CESSATION OF PROGRESSION OF THE TUMOR. HOWEVER, HEPATIC TUMORS ASSOCIATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS ARE MUCH MORE VASCULAR THAN OTHER HEPATIC TUMORS AND MAY BE SILENT UNTIL LIFE-THREATENING INTRA-ABDOMINAL HEMORRHAGE DEVELOPS. BLOOD LIPID CHANGES THAT ARE KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS ARE SEEN IN PATIENTS TREATED WITH ANDROGENS OR ANABOLIC STEROIDS. THESE CHANGES INCLUDE DECREASED HIGH-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS AND SOMETIMES INCREASED LOW-DENSITY LIPOPROTEINS. THE CHANGES MAY BE VERY MARKED AND COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON THE RISK OF ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE.

Cholestatic hepatitis and jaundice may occur with 17-alpha-alkylated androgens at a relatively low dose. If cholestatic hepatitis with jaundice appears or if liver function tests become abnormal, oxandrolone should be discontinued and the etiology should be determined. Drug-induced jaundice is reversible when the medication is discontinued.

In patients with breast cancer, anabolic steroid therapy may cause hypercalcemia by stimulating osteolysis. Oxandrolone therapy should be discontinued if hypercalcemia occurs.

Edema with or without congestive heart failure may be a serious complication in patients with pre-existing cardiac, renal, or hepatic disease. Concomitant administration of adrenal cortical steroid or ACTH may increase the edema.

In children, androgen therapy may accelerate bone maturation without producing compensatory gain in linear growth. This adverse effect results in compromised adult height. The younger the child, the greater the risk of compromising final mature height. The effect on bone maturation should be monitored by assessing bone age of the left wrist and hand every 6 months (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**).

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

ANABOLIC STEROIDS HAVE NOT BEEN SHOWN TO ENHANCE ATHLETIC ABILITY.

PRECAUTIONS

General:
Women should be observed for signs of virilization (deepening of the voice, hirsutism, acne, clitoromegaly). Discontinuation of drug therapy at the time of evidence of mild virilism is necessary to prevent irreversible virilization. Some virilizing changes in women are irreversible even after prompt discontinuance of therapy and are not prevented by concomitant use of estrogens. Menstrual irregularities may also occur.

Anabolic steroids may cause suppression of clotting factors II, V, VII, and X, and an increase in prothrombin time.

Information for patients:
The physician should instruct patients to report any of the following side effects of androgens:

Males: Too frequent or persistent erections of the penis, appearance or aggravation of acne.
Females: Hoarseness, acne, changes in menstrual periods, or more facial hair.
All patients: Nausea, vomiting, changes in skin color, or ankle swelling.

Laboratory tests:
Women with disseminated breast carcinoma should have frequent determination of urine and serum calcium levels during the course of therapy (See **WARNINGS**).

Because of the hepatotoxicity associated with the use of 17-alpha-alkylated androgens, liver function tests should be obtained periodically.

Periodic (every 6 months) x-ray examinations of bone age should be made during treatment of children to determine the rate of bone maturation and the effects of androgen therapy on the epiphyseal centers.

Serum lipids and high-density lipoprotein cholesterol determinations should be done periodically as androgenic anabolic steroids have been reported to increase low-density lipoproteins. Serum cholesterol levels may increase during therapy. Therefore, caution is required when administering these agents to patients with a history of myocardial infarction or coronary artery disease. Serial determinations of serum cholesterol should be made and therapy adjusted accordingly.

Hemoglobin and hematocrit should be checked periodically for polycythemia in patients who are receiving high doses of anabolic steroids.

Drug interactions

Anticoagulants:
Anabolic steroids may increase sensitivity to oral anticoagulants. Dosage of the anticoagulant may have to be decreased in order to maintain desired prothrombin time. Patients receiving oral anticoagulant therapy require close monitoring, especially when anabolic steroids are started or stopped.

Oral hypoglycemic agents:
Oxandrolone may inhibit the metabolism of oral hypoglycemic agents.

Adrenal steroids or ACTH:
In patients with edema, concomitant administration with adrenal cortical steroids or ACTH may increase the edema.

Drug/Laboratory test interactions:
Anabolic steroids may decrease levels of thyroxine-binding globulin, resulting in decreased total T_4 serum levels and increased resin uptake of T_3 and T_4. Free thyroid hormone levels remain unchanged. In addition, a decrease in PBI and radioactive iodine uptake may occur.

Carcinogenesis, mutagenesis, impairment of fertility

Animal data:
Oxandrolone has not been tested in laboratory animals for carcinogenic or mutagenic effects. In 2-year chronic oral rat studies, a dose-related reduction of spermatogenesis and decreased organ weights (testes, prostate, seminal vesicles, ovaries, uterus, adrenals, and pituitary) were shown.

Human data:
Liver cell tumors have been reported in patients receiving long-term therapy with androgenic anabolic steroids in high doses (See **WARNINGS**). Withdrawal of the drugs did not lead to regression of the tumors in all cases.

Geriatric patients treated with androgenic anabolic steroids may be at an increased risk for the development of prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma.

Pregnancy:
Teratogenic effects—Pregnancy Category X (See **CONTRAINDICATIONS**).

Nursing mothers:
It is not known whether anabolic steroids are excreted in human milk. Because of the potential of serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from oxandrolone, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

Pediatric use:
Anabolic agents may accelerate epiphyseal maturation more rapidly than linear growth in children and the effect may continue for 6 months after the drug has been stopped. Therefore, therapy should be monitored by x-ray studies at 6-month intervals in order to avoid the risk of compromising adult height. Androgenic anabolic steroid therapy should be used very cautiously in children and only by specialists who are aware of the effects on bone maturation (See **WARNINGS**).

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The following adverse reactions have been associated with use of anabolic steroids:

Hepatic: Cholestatic jaundice with, rarely, hepatic necrosis and death. Hepatocellular neoplasms and peliosis hepatis with long-term therapy (See **WARNINGS**). Reversible changes in liver function tests also occur including increased bromsulfophthalein (BSP) retention, and increases in serum bilirubin, aspartate aminotransferase (AST, SGOT) and alkaline phosphatase.

In *males:*
Prepubertal: Phallic enlargement and increased frequency or persistence of erections.
Postpubertal: Inhibition of testicular function, testicular atrophy and oligospermia, impotence, chronic priapism, epididymitis, and bladder irritability.

In *females:*
Clitoral enlargement, menstrual irregularities.

CNS: Habituation, excitation, insomnia, depression, and changes in libido.

Hematologic: Bleeding in patients on concomitant anticoagulant therapy.

Breast: Gynecomastia.

Larynx: Deepening of the voice in females.

Hair: Hirsutism and male pattern baldness in females.

Skin: Acne (especially in females and prepubertal males).

Skeletal: Premature closure of epiphyses in children (See **PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric use**).

Fluid and electrolytes: Edema, retention of serum electrolytes (sodium chloride, potassium, phosphate, calcium).

Metabolic/Endocrine: Decreased glucose tolerance (See **PRECAUTIONS: Laboratory tests**), increased creatinine excretion, increased serum levels of creatinine phosphokinase (CPK). Masculinization of the fetus. Inhibition of gonadotropin secretion.

OVERDOSAGE

No symptoms or signs associated with overdosage have been reported. It is possible that sodium and water retention may occur.

The oral LD_{50} of oxandrolone in mice and dogs is greater than 5,000 mg/kg. No specific antidote is known, but gastric lavage may be used.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Therapy with anabolic steroids is adjunctive to and not a replacement for conventional therapy. The duration of therapy with Oxandrin (oxandrolone) will depend on the response of the patient and the possible appearance of adverse reactions. Therapy should be intermittent.

Adults: The *usual adult* dosage of Oxandrin is one 2.5-mg tablet 2 to 4 times daily. However, the response of individuals to anabolic steroids varies, and a daily dosage of as little as 2.5 mg or as much as 20 mg may be required to achieve the desired response. A course of therapy of 2 to 4 weeks is usually adequate. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

Children: For children the total daily dosage of Oxandrin is ≤0.1 mg per kilogram body weight or ≤0.045 mg per pound of body weight. This may be repeated intermittently as indicated.

HOW SUPPLIED

Oxandrin 2.5-mg tablets are oval, white, and scored with BTG on one side and "11" on each side of the scoreline on the other side; bottles of 100 (NDC 54396-111-11).
Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

Revised: Aug. 30, 1996

Manufactured for
BTG Pharmaceuticals by:
G.D. Searle & Co.
Chicago, IL 60680

Address medical inquiries to:
BTG Pharmaceuticals
Medical Affairs
70 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, NJ 08830

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OXANDRIN® C III

(oxandrolone tablets, USP)

A05268-1

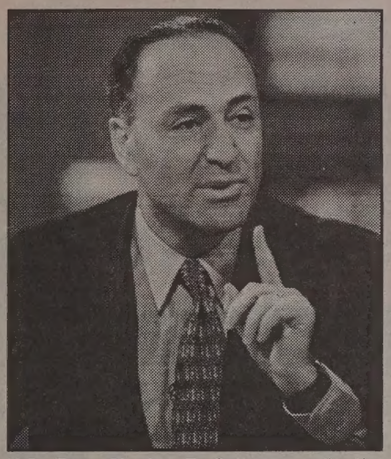
Congress jumps into Cayman Islands flap

BY ROBERT DAVID SULLIVAN

Two New York members of Congress this week called on the British ambassador to the United States to intervene in the case of a gay travel group barred from landing in the Cayman Islands.

Representatives Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan) and Charles E. Schumer (D-Brooklyn) wrote a letter to Ambassador Christopher Meyer asking him to arrange a meeting between Cayman Islands authorities and "representatives of the gay and lesbian community" to discuss "this intolerable decision."

Atlantis Events Inc., organizer of a seven-day cruise scheduled to depart from Miami on Jan. 30, revealed last week that their vessel has been denied landing rights by the government of the Cayman Islands, a British dependency. The Cayman Islands' minister of tourism cited the group's inability to follow "standards of appropriate behavior" as cause for turning the group away.



U.S. Rep. Charles E. Schumer calls the banning of a gay cruise ship "intolerable."

The motor steamship *Leewarl*, chartered by Norwegian Cruise Line, was scheduled to dock at Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on Feb. 1. According to the West Hollywood, Calif.-based Atlantis Events, 910 people, mostly gay men, have made reservations for the cruise, which will now make its first stop in Belize rather than Grand Cayman.

In their Jan. 8 letter to Ambassador Meyer, Maloney and Schumer, currently a candidate for U.S. Senate, called the Cayman government's decision "insulting and discriminatory," adding "Since when do countries require a litmus test of views, race, religion, or orientation before tourists can enter a country?"

Maloney and Schumer asked Meyer to convene and attend a meeting on the matter that would include Cayman Island authorities, gay representatives, and member of Congress.

"We hope that at the very least the Cayman Islands will issue an official apology to the lesbian and gay community...and especially to the hundreds of people who paid for a cruise and were treated with appalling indignity," their letter states.

A spokesperson for Schumer told the *Blade* on Wednesday that his office has not yet received a response from the ambassador.

Pathmark is urged to grant partner benefits

BY KATIE SZYMANSKI

Three New York politicians asked the president of the New Jersey-based Pathmark Stores to begin granting the domestic partnership benefits the corporation promised employees in 1995.

In a letter sent to Pathmark President Jim Donald on Dec. 29, Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, former Borough President Ruth Messinger, and City Councilmember Tom Duane urged the company to implement domestic partnership benefits as a "tremendous step forward for equal treatment for all of your employees."

Andrew Berman, a spokesperson for Duane, said the letter was in response to a promise made by Pathmark spokesperson Harvey Guttman on a television program in April 1995.

"We feel that since Pathmark serves the public sector," said Berman, "they have a special obligation to give domestic partnership benefits to its employees."

But Guttman did his original pledge was to "study the issue" of implementing domestic partnership benefits.

"I believe," said Guttman, "that we're living up to our commitment as we made it that day."

Berman disagreed with Guttman's recollection of the broadcast. Although the tape of the show that featured Guttman was destroyed, Berman said a number of city councilmembers have signed a letter saying Guttman promised to begin offering partnership benefits.

"Everybody who signed the letter remembers it was a pledge to implement benefits, not look into the issue," he said.

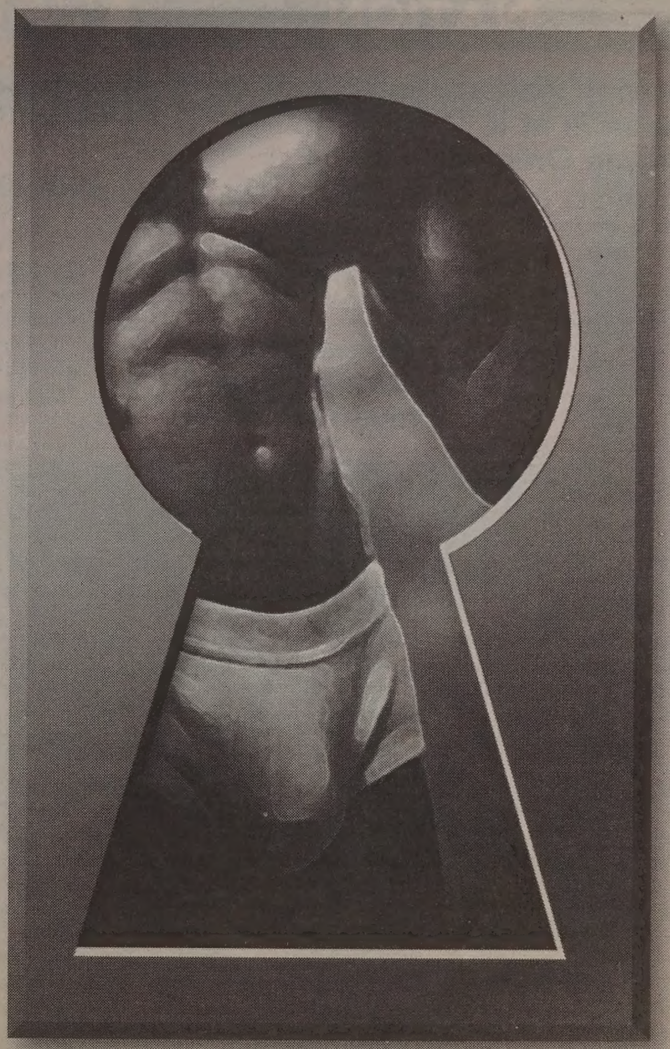
Guttman said the corporation's slowness in adopting partners benefits is due to the fact that many Pathmark employees are members of unions. He said Pathmark can't legally force unions to adopt policies.

Berman said that in none of his previous conversations with Guttman did he mention union negotiations as a stumbling block.

"I am skeptical of that excuse," he said.

Pathmark, based in Woodbridge, has 18 stores and 4,000 employees in New York City and the surrounding area.

Guttman said he received the letter last week and was in the process of drafting a response. Citing "proper etiquette," Guttman would not discuss the contents of his letter until he sent it to city officials.



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NATION

Anti-gay leader Mabon is at it again in Oregon

PORTLAND, Oregon — Anti-gay leader Lon Mabon this week announced his latest proposal for a ballot initiative, "The Family Act," which would amend the Oregon state constitution to limit the legal definition of family to "one man and one woman in a marriage covenant and their children."

Gay civil rights advocates in Oregon say the proposed initiative, which voters statewide most likely will consider this November, goes beyond the marriage issue.

"Don't get [distracted] and look at this as just an anti-gay marriage initiative," said longtime lesbian activist Jean Harris, executive director of Basic Rights Oregon, a pro-gay group that has long fought against Mabon. "It's the same old thing, and much more far-reaching than we anticipated."

The Family Act does not specifically mention gays. It calls for the establishment of a public policy stating "...the concept of the male/female relationship of sexual affection is that which is natural to mankind and that male/female gender is determined at the moment of conception."

Under the proposed act, state and local governments would be forbidden from doing anything to promote relationships other than those between males and females.

"It affects gays and employment and would prohibit domestic partner benefits," Harris said.

The initiative could also pose barriers for individuals who want to undergo sex-change procedures.

In 1994, Mabon's Oregon Citizens Alliance was the major force behind Measure 13, the "Child Protection and Minority Status Act," which attempted to prohibit civil rights laws protecting gays in the Beaver State. It was rejected by a bare 51 percent of the voters. The OCA has proposed several other anti-gay initiatives over the past decade, none of which have come as close to passage.

By July 3, Oregon Citizens Alliance must collect and submit to the Secretary of State's office 97,681 valid signatures to have this newest initiative placed on the November ballot.

The Alliance has collected more than 30,000 signatures so far, Mabon said.

Mabon also said that the Christian Coalition of Oregon has created a political action committee and is helping the OCA to collect signatures.

"That's a bad sign," Harris said, "because the Oregon Citizens Alliance doesn't have much money or a good public image in the state anymore."

Thin-skinned state official is given the boot

HARTFORD, Conn. — Governor John G. Rowland (R) withdrew the nomination of an official he named to head the state department of public safety Dec. 19, after allegations arose that the nominee had made anti-gay comments to subordinates and had ordered investigations of his critics, the *Hartford Courant* reported.

Rowland had appointed Col. William T. McGuire as interim commissioner of the department in September, but withdrew his name in the wake of several allegations. Among them were that McGuire ordered a criminal investigation to learn who sent an anonymous fax to his office. The fax, sent last year to the public safety department's affirmative action office, stated that McGuire made derogatory, anti-gay comments about former State Trooper Stacey Simmons.

Simmons, a lesbian who worked under McGuire when he served as a lieutenant in the state police department, filed a lawsuit against McGuire and other police officials, charging discrimination.

Another allegation was that McGuire ordered state police to investigate a state lawmaker who was critical of him.

Rowland withdrew his support of McGuire Dec. 19, the same day a second female state trooper filed a discrimination lawsuit against McGuire in state court. The woman, identified only as "Jane Doe," alleges that McGuire called her crude and derogatory names while he was her supervisor in the state police department, the *Courant* reported.

Rowland said that although he believed in McGuire's professionalism, the state Legislature was unlikely to confirm him in light of the allegations.

Connecticut passed a law in 1991 prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"It's going to...[be] very difficult for us to move this nomination ahead," he told reporters.

Continued on Page 12

Watchdog groups growl at new hate crimes report

Gay organizations believe FBI's numbers are too low

BY KAI WRIGHT

The FBI reported last week that the number of hate crimes committed across the country involving sexual orientation bias in 1996 remained nearly equal to that of the previous year.

The FBI's annual report on hate crimes in the United States, released Jan. 8, places the number of anti-gay hate crimes at 1,016 for 1996, which compares to 1,019 anti-gay hate crimes in 1995.

But anti-gay violence watchdogs and gay civil rights groups are questioning the FBI's numbers, saying they appear to be undercounts. The gay groups said the FBI statistics, compiled from reports voluntarily provided by local law enforcement agencies, reveal those agencies' reluctance to register attacks on gays as hate crimes.

"We know from experience that local law enforcement agencies are often reluctant to report bias crimes based on sexual orientation," said Human Rights Campaign Political Director Winnie Stachelberg, in a statement responding to the report. "One state, Alabama, reported no hate crimes whatsoever in 1996, which seems highly unlikely."

The FBI report cited only two murders involving sexual orientation bias in 1996. Sharen Shaw Johnson of Gay Men and Lesbians Opposing Violence in Washington, D.C., said her organization counts at least two murders in Prince George's County (Md.) alone.

"I don't quite understand where that comes from," said Johnson about the number of murders the FBI report classifies as anti-gay hate crimes in 1996. "The report brings up the problem we continue to have with law enforcement not being able to recognize and categorize crimes as hate crimes."

The FBI report said there were a total of 8,759 incidents of hate crime in 1996. In addition to the 1,016 (11 percent) involving sexual orientation bias, that number includes 5,396 (62 percent) involving race bias, 1,401 (16 percent) involving religion bias, 940 (11 percent) involving ethnicity or national origin bias, and six (less than 1 percent) that were "multiple-bias incidents."

Of the 1,016 anti-gay crimes:

- 757 (75 percent) were "anti-male homosexual,"
- 150 (15 percent) were "anti-female homosexual,"
- 84 (8 percent) were "anti-homosexual,"
- 15 (1 percent) were "anti-heterosexual," and
- 10 (1 percent) were "anti-bisexual."

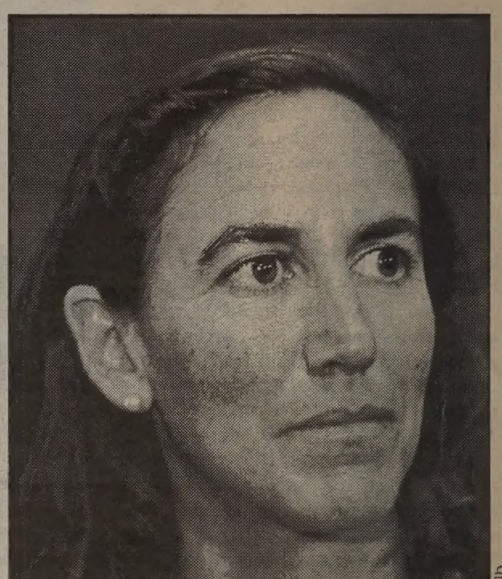
(No number was given for crimes involving transgendered people.)

This breakdown also remained nearly identical to the FBI's 1995 distribution of anti-gay hate crimes.

The anti-gay "incidents" of hate crime, which often involve multiple offenders and victims, represent 1,281 victims and 1,180 known offenders.

The FBI report, mandated by a 1990 law and first published in 1993 documenting crimes committed in 1991, is compiled from statistics voluntarily supplied by local police agencies. The more than 11,000 participating police agencies from 49 states and the District of Columbia, covering an estimated 84 percent of the national population, represent a jump of more than 1,500 agencies from 1995. The total number of all hate crimes reported for 1996 also increased — by almost 1,000 incidents over 1995. But the FBI cautions against attempting comparisons between years, explaining that changes in reporting levels (such as the number of agencies participating) prevent accurate cross-year analysis of the data.

The FBI report also states that most 1996 anti-gay hate crimes occurred in the victims' homes (318 incidents or 31 percent), followed by incidents on a "highway/road/alley/street" (262 or 26 percent). Johnson said past figures compiled by a national coalition of gay anti-violence groups dispute this finding as well.



By Clint Stelb

"We know from experience that local law enforcement agencies are often reluctant to report bias crimes based on sexual orientation," said Human Rights Campaign Political Director Winnie Stachelberg.

The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Projects, of which GLOV is a member, is expected to release its next annual report on anti-gay hate crimes in March, providing numbers for 1996. That group's statistics are compiled from reports provided by local anti-gay violence watchdog groups rather than police agencies. Johnson said that report, for the last few years, has shown a steady decline in the number of crimes committed in victims' residences and an increase in those committed "in the streets." She attributes the change to increased victim reporting of attacks in public.

While last year the FBI reported 1,019 anti-gay hate crimes for 1995, the coalition reported 2,212.

Spokespersons at the FBI said their report simply compiles data submitted by local agencies. It is left to the local authorities to decide which crimes qualify as hate crimes, they said.

GLOV's Johnson said this system explains the difference in numbers between the FBI reports and the coalition's reports. Gay watchdog groups around the country employ less restrictive definitions of hate crimes than local law enforcement agencies and, thereby, document more incidents.

"Our take on it has always been that hate doesn't have to be the sole motivation," explained Johnson, describing a recent meeting with the U.S. Attorney's office in Washington, D.C., at which she was shocked to hear local police captains describe the restrictive conceptions of an anti-gay hate crime which they employ.

Johnson noted that in a situation in which gay men are being robbed as they exit gay bars, GLOV would consider the incidents as hate crimes, but local police often classify them as nothing more than robberies.

The annual FBI report is mandated by the 1990 Hate Crimes Statistics Act, which requires the agency to collect statistics on anti-gay crimes.

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Live a little

Continued from Page 10

Rowland nominated state prosecutor John A. Connolly for the position Jan. 6 and was expected to install Connolly as interim commissioner this week.

The safety commissioner oversees the state police department.

Christian Coalition may form PAC

CHESAPEAKE, Va. — The Christian Coalition may change its structure so it can endorse political candidates and contribute money to campaigns, the *Washington Post* reported Jan. 9.

The move would transform the nine-year-old nonpartisan organization, which is currently tax-exempt, into a dues-paying, political machine.

Ralph Reed, former executive director and a current board member, said Coalition officials are also weighing whether to form a political action committee that would support conservative candidates, the *Post* reported.

Such a PAC could raise about $3.5 million annually, he told the newspaper. The amount would be significantly higher than the roughly $1.1 million PAC held by the national's largest gay political organization, the Human Rights Campaign.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, said the changes would confirm what his watchdog organization has long suspected: that the Christian Coalition is a partisan organization that already supports conservative Republican candidates.

"The evidence of the Christian Coalition's partisan politicking is now so overwhelming that even [former Coalition President] Pat Robertson knows he can't keep up the charade...any longer," Lynn said.

The Federal Elections Commission has scrutinized the Coalition's activities and filed a lawsuit against the organization in July 1996, alleging it violated federal election law by improperly distributing educational voter guides without reporting them as campaign-related expenditures.

Mayor refuses to apologize for gay slur

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Montgomery Mayor Emory Folmar angered gays and others last month when he called gay people "queer" and inferred that their "lifestyle" was the cause of anti-gay violence, the *Montgomery Advertiser* reported.

The veteran official refused to apologize for the comments, made Dec. 18 on the television show Good Morning, Montgomery.

"I used the word 'queer' and I'll use it again," Folmar told the *Advertiser*. "I'm not going to call them gay. I don't approve of their lifestyle one bit."

Folmar said he was responding to a caller to the show who recounted being harassed outside of a downtown nightclub.

"I said something to the effect, 'If you [gays] don't all hang out together, there wouldn't be a problem,'" Folmar told the newspaper.

—WENDY JOHNSON AND RHONDA SMITH

Business

Mobil Corp. plans to offer domestic partner benefits

Mobil Corporation, the nation's second largest oil company, announced last month that beginning in April it will offer gay and unmarried heterosexual employees the same benefits for their domestic partners as the company now offers married employees.

The move will affect many of the company's 20,000 U.S. employees. And, said spokesperson Dave Dickson, it will make Mobil a more "competitive" employer. Chevron, Shell, and the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers Union also offer domestic partner benefits.

"We want to make certain that our benefits program meets the needs of Mobil's work force and that employees get the most value for the funds that we invest," he said.

The company's new benefits will become effective April 1. The change will allow an employee's domestic partner to receive not only medical and dental coverage, but also paid maternity leave, relocation benefits, and financial counseling.

The enhancement will also allow a deceased employee's partner to receive the "full value" of the employee's unused pension "regardless of whether you are single or married," according to information the company released Dec. 11.

Mobil is part of a growing number of public and private employers that offer domestic partner benefits. Four states — including New York — and more than 50 cities and counties currently offer the benefits. In addition, nearly one out of every four firms that employ more than 5,000 people offer domestic partnership benefits, according to the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

"We simply want to remain competitive, not just with other oil companies when it comes to recruiting employees, but also with other industries as well," said Dickson. "We want to make certain that our benefits program meets the needs of Mobil's work force and that employees get the most value for the funds that we invest.

Mobil company executives decided to extend the benefits after an internal poll revealed that many employees favored such a change, he said.

Gay Mobil employees have been lobbying for improved benefits since 1994, when a handful of workers founded the Mobil Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Since then, company officials appointed a company executive to serve as a liaison to the group.

—WENDY JOHNSON

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AOL becomes tool in Navy's anti-gay campaign

Continued from Page 1

son Wendy Goldberg told the *Blade* Monday. "We don't disclose private information unless we are presented with a court order, a search warrant, or a subpoena. That policy is made very clear to our employees. We are looking into this [McVeigh] situation."

A day later, Tricia Primrose, another AOL spokesperson, noted that federal law also requires any governmental agency seeking online information to seek a court subpoena, order, or search warrant. Primrose suggested that by not identifying himself when calling AOL, the Navy investigator "may have circumvented these [legal] channels in an attempt to get information" on McVeigh — in other words, misled AOL and violated the federal Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA).

Primrose was asked why, given AOL's assurances to subscribers that their privacy is guaranteed, a staff member gave out information to someone who appeared to be just a member of the public. In response, Primrose said the hearing transcript "seems contradictory and confusing at best."

"We are looking into the Navy situation ourselves from the AOL perspective," Primrose said, "but from everything we've seen we feel confident our privacy policy was followed."

The McVeigh case, which drew widespread national publicity this week, has also raised questions about whether the government — in this case the Navy — is adhering to the Privacy Act. And gay military activists argue that the Navy's action in investigating McVeigh's statements on AOL and then ordering him discharged violate even the limited protection servicemembers have under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy accepted by President Clinton and approved by Congress.

Under that policy, said Kirk Childress, an attorney with Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, someone can be charged for making a statement that he or she is gay. That statement is supposed to indicate a "propensity" to engage in sex with a person of the same gender, which remains illegal under the military code.

But McVeigh and his military attorney, notes Childress, deny that his writing "gay" in the marital status field constituted a statement that he is gay.

"I'm not in a position to make judgments," said Childress, who is also advising McVeigh. "I think it's irrelevant whether it's a statement [that he's gay], because what you have here is something intended as a private communication. It was not intended as a public statement and certainly falls well within the area of a decent regard for the privacy and associational rights of servicemembers that was promised to us under 'don't ask, don't tell.'"

McVeigh, 36, who upon discharge loses not only his career but his pension and health benefits, joined the Navy 17 years ago because "it sounded interesting, and I was looking forward to the travel."

He did well, starting out as an electronics technician and ending up in personnel management, with 134 people working under him as senior enlisted person on the attack submarine *USS Chicago*. Over the years, he earned 11 medals and numerous commendations.

'Boysrch' raised suspicions

McVeigh's tribulations began after he sent an e-mail last summer to a Navy ombudsperson — the wife of a shipmate, who serves as a liaison between the Navy and servicemembers' spouses. McVeigh had been working with her on a "Toys for Tots" campaign.

McVeigh's e-mail screen name was "Boysrch," and the ombudsperson looked up the profile he had filed under that name (McVeigh also had several other AOL profiles, he said). A profile is public and can be seen by anyone who logs onto AOL.

That McVeigh profile listed "gay" next to "Marital Status." According to an Associated Press story that his military attorney confirmed to the *Blade*, the profile listed "driving, boywatching, collecting pictures of other young studs" under "Hobbies." Like many AOL profiles, McVeigh's did not include his full name; only "Tim" was given.

McVeigh and his attorney, Lt. Cmdr. Derek Cole, say none of that constitutes a "statement" that he is gay, as required under "don't ask, don't tell."

"We don't think it's a credible statement [that he's gay] or that it shows a propensity to commit homosexual acts," says Cole. "There's all kinds of garbage up on the Internet....This is clear speculation. They don't have anybody who says he's gay. All they have is a darned profile that can't be believed."

McVeigh declines to reveal his sexual orientation. He told the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* that he put "gay" in his profile because "I have dedicated so much of my life to the military, I really didn't want to get married and be out to sea all the time. Nor did I want to have children and not be there to see them grow up."

He added, "To me, [gay] is a word. It wasn't put there as a statement at all."

The ombudsperson took the profile information to Navy officials, who confronted McVeigh when his ship returned to port in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Sept. 12. McVeigh was removed from ship duty, resulting in a $745 a month salary cut, while the Navy investigation continued.

At a hearing before an administrative discharge board Nov. 7, a naval investigator testified how he called AOL to find out the full name of the person who filed the profile. (A transcript was provided to the *Blade* by McVeigh adviser Aravosis.)

The investigator testified that he did not identify himself as being from the Navy or give any explanation as to why he wanted the information.

While AOL's Primrose says the service feels "confident at this point that our privacy policy was followed," gay and Internet activists say the hearing testimony is troubling.

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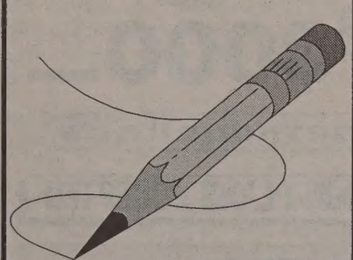

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"Mrs. Ida Macalpine and the Tragedy of Birth: How Freud Put Oedipus's Foot in His Mouth"
Jacquie Stevens, University of Michigan
Room 202, CUNY Graduate Center, 33 West 42 Street, New York City
7:00-9:00pm
CLAGS Colloquium Series in Lesbian and Gay Studies

Thursday, February 5
"Asian Men, White Boys, and the Policing of Sex in Early Twentieth-Century California"
Nayan Shah, Binghamton College-SUNY
Room 202, CUNY Graduate Center, 33 West 42 Street, New York City
7:00-9:00pm
CLAGS Colloquium Series in Lesbian and Gay Studies

Friday, February 13
ANXIOUS PLEASURES: A SYMPOSIUM ON THE EROTICS OF PEDAGOGY
Featuring **Jane Gallop**, *Author of* Feminist Accused of Sexual Harassment *and a Panel Discussion with* **David Eng**, *Columbia University;* **Ann Pellegrini**, *Harvard University;* **James Kincaid**, *USC: and* **Jill Dolan**, *CUNY Graduate Center (Moderator)*
Third Floor Studio, CUNY Graduate Center, 33 West 42 Street, New York City
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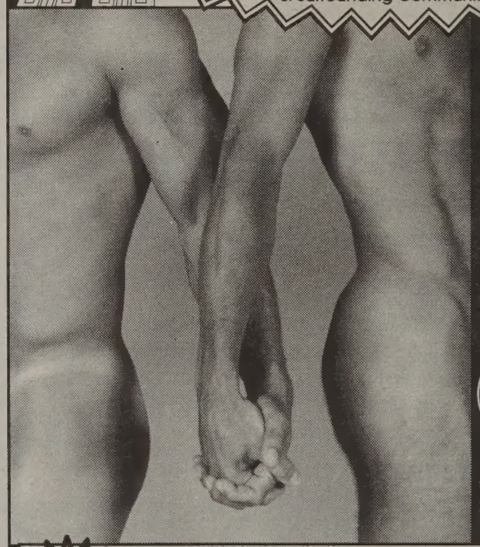

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GMHC reverses its position on HIV reporting

Continued from Page 1

said in its statement. Having the data to prove there is a need in these communities would help secure services for populations most at risk for contracting the virus.

Johnson said HIV surveillance data would also help to get more people into treatment programs.

"Advanced treatments mean more people can be successfully treated," he said. "We can use treatment surveillance data to treat people more effectively."

To assess the course of the disease in an individual infected with HIV, for instance, a doctor could benefit from data that indicated whether specific groups of people with HIV infection benefit from specific therapies. Public health officials could benefit from data showing what services people with HIV most often require.

Most organizations involved with the epidemic agree that there is a need for reporting cases of HIV infection. But they emphasize the need to make sure such reporting guards the individual's privacy.

"We all knew HIV surveillance was becoming necessary," said Michael Adams, staff counsel to the American Civil Liberties Union. "The debate is not if we need reporting, it's about how we're going to do it."

Adams said New York should follow the lead of Texas and Maryland, which use a system known as "unique identifiers" to report their HIV cases. Unique identifiers are codes assigned to each person tested for signs of HIV infection. The codes do not supply state agencies with a name, but, instead, contain fragments of the person's social security number and birth date to distinguish one case from another. The system was designed to preserve a patient's anonymity and ensure that a person who gets tested more than once would not be counted more than once when statistics are compiled.

"GMHC is calling for a new monitoring system with strong and enforceable privacy protections," the GMHC statement summarized. But the statement did not specifically declare GMHC's opposition to names reporting.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a gay legal group, called that "a disappointment."

"Our concern is, we don't want to go some place where there's no turning back," said Catherine Hanssens, director of Lambda's AIDS project.

Jeff Reynolds, co-chair of the AIDS Advisory Council's HIV Surveillance Committee, said GMHC's statement makes it seem that AIDS groups are divided over HIV reporting.

"Opposition to names reporting should have been the first line of anything GMHC put out," said Reynolds, who believes GMHC's statement caused the perception of inconsistency within the AIDS services community.

Reynolds said GMHC's statement would weigh heavily into the state Legislature's actions.

Links to legislation

Several state legislators said they believe New York would soon require HIV reporting, perhaps by the end of 1998. While HIV surveillance has been in the legislative spotlight for quite some time, they agreed that GMHC's position helps pave the way for an HIV reporting bill in the state Legislature this year.

Whether that legislation will include names reporting depends largely on recommendations from the New York AIDS Advisory Council, a group of community leaders that advises the governor and legislature on AIDS policies. The council is expected to make its recommendations in March.

City Councilmember Tom Duane, a member of the AIDS council who is himself HIV-positive and against names reporting, said he is very concerned about GMHC's statement and hopes the council would move forward cautiously.

Some politicians, such as Manhattan Assemblymember Dick Gottfried (D-L), said they will support HIV surveillance that uses codes instead of names. But others, like Queens Assemblymember Nettie Mayersohn (D), said they will push for legislation that requires the reporting of the names of all people who have HIV infection. Mayersohn has already introduced a bill in both houses that would require the state to notify all past and present sexual partners of people with HIV infection.

Bills like Mayersohn's, said Reynolds, are the reason groups like GMHC must be careful to oppose names reporting.

"Legislators didn't push for names reporting [before]," Reynolds said, "because there was a strong block of opposition. But now, they may see the voice of the AIDS community as inconsistent, or disorganized at best."

Many AIDS activists fear that legislators are motivated more by a desire to punish people with HIV than to help ensure the public health through prevention or services.

"If you look at pending legislation," said Reynolds, "a picture begins to emerge."

There are over 50 bills relating to HIV in the state legislature agenda for 1998, and most of them would mandate that various people be given the HIV antibody test or that they reveal their HIV status in various situations. One bill would increase penalties for people who are convicted of sex crimes while HIV-infected, while another would make it a felony for a person with HIV not to disclose his or her status to a sexual partner. Such bills, said some, are likely to discourage people from knowing the HIV status.

"So criminal penalties kick in only if you bother to find out your status," said Hanssens. "Which could be a huge deterrent in terms of testing."

To test or not to test

Hanssens said some patients fear HIV reporting because of the perceived threat that their names will be put onto a list that could be used against them, a fear that is enhanced by potential legislation.

"Names reporting will keep people like parolees and immigrants from getting tested," she said.

Dennis deLeon of Manhattan's Latino Commission on AIDS agrees.

The Commission conducted a survey in December that asked 100 Latino New Yorkers their views on HIV surveillance. Seventy-two percent of those polled said they would not get an HIV antibody test if they knew their names would be reported to the health department, and 38 percent said they would not take an HIV antibody test even if they used only a unique identifier.

"Minorities have a tradition of government mistrust," said deLeon. "They believe that the government would trace their codes and identify them."

People have reason to be skeptical that their identities would be protected, according to Hanssens. She pointed to a recent Florida case where privacy protections failed. In 1996, a computer disk containing the names of approximately 4,000 people who tested HIV positive were anonymously sent to two Florida newspapers. The disk apparently originated with an employee of the state health department who lost it after showing it to friends outside a gay bar.

"Even if the state could guarantee confidentiality, not everyone would believe it," said Reynolds of the Advisory Council. "What GMHC forgot to address was that a perceived threat is no different from an actual threat when it comes to testing."

While reporting with unique identifiers may give people an added measure of security when they take an HIV antibody test, it is not likely that a coded system will receive financial support or encouragement from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC recommended in a study published in the Jan. 9 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report that a unique identifier system used in Maryland and Texas "limits the performance of an HIV surveillance system and complicates efforts to collect risk behavior information." Many AIDS activists fear this means that the agency will not support attempts to set up similar systems in New York and other states.

Next steps

The push for names reporting, according to community and AIDS groups around the state, was inevitable. The pressure to report names intensified after the recent Nushawn Williams case in Chautauqua County, where a man with HIV spread the virus to dozens of women and high school girls.

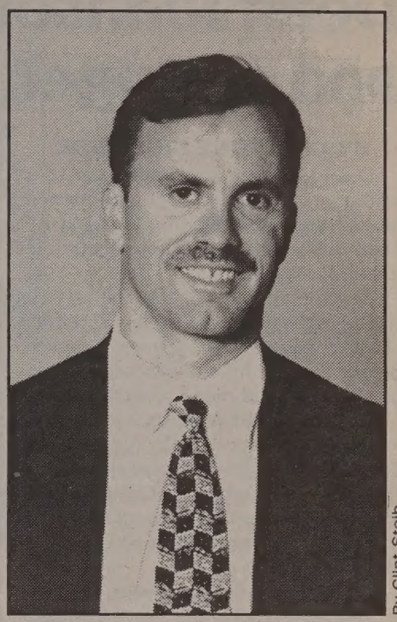
"My feeling is, GMHC knew the issue was coming to the table," said Rich Tafel, executive director of the Log Cabin Republicans in Washington, D.C. "In order to keep government from mandating names reporting, they came out with a statement that mentioned privacy reporting."

The mention of privacy, however, was not enough, according to some activists.

"It's bad," responded James Wentzy of the AIDS direct action group ACT UP. "It makes you wonder what kind of deals GMHC made with the government."

Jeanne Bergman, senior policy analyst at Housing Works, a group that provides housing and other services to people with HIV, said she, too, believes GMHC had a financial stake in HIV reporting.

"The big money in AIDS prevention and services is in federal funds channeled through state agencies," said Bergman, senior policy analyst at Housing Works. "GMHC has never been shy about collaborating with government interests to improve their financial situation. They know their position will devastate certain communities that will now avoid testing. But by not strongly opposing names reporting, they can now bring in money connected to the CDC, and keep their monopoly of AIDS services. GMHC's motive behind Tuesday's statement was purely financial."



By Clint Steib

"The debate is not if we need reporting, it's about how we're going to do it," said Michael Adams, staff counsel to the American Civil Liberties Union.

But GMHC's Johnson, who said community groups have been aware for months that the organization would announce a policy reversal, defended the GMHC statement as "strong and clear on protection and privacy."

"The statement is very strong that this data should not be misused," he said. "I regret that people feel we did not stress the importance of privacy."

The Empire State Pride Agenda said the issue's importance depends on how the HIV data is used.

"We must demand that there is no linkage between surveillance and punishment," said Matt Foreman, ESPA's executive director.

Both Lambda and GMHC will offer public information sessions next week to discuss the implications of HIV reporting.

"We still have a voice in how this affects legislation," said Hanssens. "So we all need to be informed."

Lambda's session, co-sponsored by the ACLU, meets Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center on W. 13th Street. GMHC's sessions will be held Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 28 at 1 p.m. at the organization's headquarters on W. 24th Street.

The AIDS Advisory Council, meanwhile, meets Jan. 20 to reach a decision on the position of names reporting, said Adams. The ACLU urges those oppose to names reporting to fax letters to the Council at (518) 473-8395.

Obituaries

Dean Johnson, composer and arranger, dies at 42

BY CHRISTINE DINSMORE

Dean X. Johnson, a prolific composer whose works have been performed around the world, died on Jan. 4 at his home in Manhattan of complications from AIDS. He was 42.

Considered by many to be a vital thread in the fabric of the New York City classical music scene, Johnson touched people through his work as a conductor, pianist, musical director, and composer.

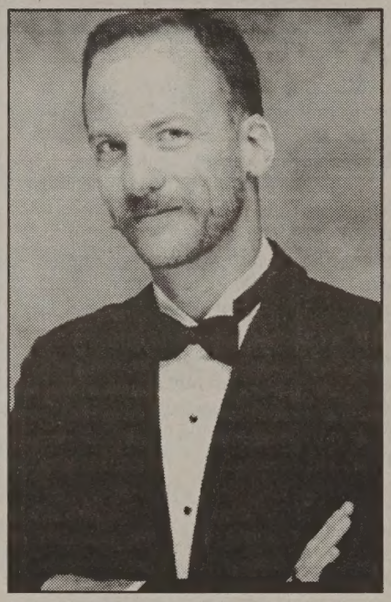
Johnson served as assistant conductor and principal accompanist for the New York City Gay Men's Chorus from 1984 through 1996. During that time, he was also the principal accompanist and music director for the group's Chamber Choir.

With the Gay Men's Chorus, Johnson conducted two performances at Carnegie Hall as well as performances at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher and Alice Tulley halls. He also led the Chamber Choir in performances on MTV, *Entertainment Tonight*, and *Sunday Morning with Charles Kuralt*. In 1993, he led the Gay Men's Chorus on a recording of "The Day After That" with Liza Minnelli.

Besides his work with the Gay Men's Chorus, Johnson conducted the Oto Yurikago Kai Children's Choir in Tokyo and the chorus of the American Express Goodwill Tour in Singapore and Hong Kong; and he was the conductor for an European and African tour of *West Side Story*, sponsored by the American Dance Machine. He was also the music director for the first-prize-winning U.S. entry at the International Festival of Short Plays in Arezzo, Italy.

As a composer, Johnson's works have been performed by more than 70 gay choruses in North America, Europe, and Australia. He received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for his opera *East River Bridge*, commissioned to celebrate the centennial of the Brooklyn Bridge. With Jeff Baron, he wrote *Song of Martina*, a short opera based on the life of tennis star Martina Navratilova, which premiered in Carnegie Hall in March 1995 with Lea DeLaria in the lead role.

Johnson accompanied or arranged music for a long list of notable musical performers including Chita Rivera, Eartha Kitt, Fred Ebb, Elaine Stritch, Nancy Dussault, Debbie Shapiro, Marni Nixon, Holly Near, Margaret Whiting, Roberta Peters, and Stockard Channing. He also appeared on Broadway with E.G. Marshall in Jerome Kern's *Music in the Air*.



Dean X. Johnson served as assistant conductor and principal accompanist for the New York City Gay Men's Chorus from 1984 through 1996.

Johnson was born in Atlanta, Georgia. He was active in the Boy Scouts of America and became an Eagle Scout. He graduated cum laude with a bachelor of arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he later received his master's degree in music.

He is survived by his partner, Leonard Johnson. He is also survived by his mother, Ruth Creech of Charlotte, N.C.; his father, Samuel D. Johnson of Sebring, Florida; his sister, Cathy Johnson, and her partner, Margaret Pan, both of Chicago; his sister, Jane Houston of Charlotte; and many friends and collaborators.

A memorial service will be held for Johnson at St. Peter's Episcopal Church on 346 W. 20th Street at 4 p.m. on Feb. 7.

Johnnie Phelps, lesbian soldier and activist, dies

BY CHRISTINE DINSMORE

Johnnie Phelps, who became legendary as a member of the Women's Army Corp for outing herself to General Dwight Eisenhower, died on Dec. 30 in the Veterans Home of Barstow, California, from complications of heart disease and diabetes. She was 75.

Phelps was featured in the documentary *Before Stonewall* and in the Randy Shilts book *Conduct Unbecoming* because of her courage when Eisenhower confronted her about lesbians in the WACs.

While Phelps was serving under Eisenhower during the U.S.'s postwar occupation of Europe, the general called her into his office to say that he had heard that there were lesbians in the WAC battalion. He asked Sgt. Phelps to make a list of suspected lesbians so he could discharge them. Phelps told the general that she would obey the order and compile the list but that her name would be at the top of the list. Eisenhower's secretary, who was standing there, interrupted, saying, "Sir, if the general pleases, Sergeant Phelps will have to be second on the list, because mine will be first."

Eisenhower reportedly dropped his request and never brought the subject up again.

Phelps served in the WACs from 1942 until 1948, when she received an honorable discharge. During her military career, she served in the medical corps in the South Pacific and with Eisenhower's Occupational Forces in the wake of World War II.

After her discharge, she settled in Greenwich Village, where she remained until the late 1950s. Phelps then moved to California, where she recognized and began dealing with her alcohol and drug addiction problems. In 1964, she became active in Alcoholics Anonymous. She later earned certification as an alcohol and drug counselor from University of California at Los Angeles.

In 1975, Phelps began working at the Alcoholism Center for Women, where she met her partner of 22 years, Grace Bukowski. She was particularly drawn to the center because of its special outreach to lesbians, according to Bukowski. At ACW, Phelps founded the Center Press, a printing and training program for residents of the alcohol treatment facility.

After she left ACW in 1977, Phelps joined the National Organization for Women. She served as the secretary of the Los Angeles chapter and eventually was elected to the board of the state chapter. She later became the chapter's treasurer.

Phelps became chair of California NOW's Lesbian Rights Task Force in 1980. During her reign as chairperson of the task force, she assisted 21 Navy women on the *USS Norton Sound* who had been sought out during a "witch hunt" by the Navy. Phelps and her partner led an ongoing protest at the Long Beach Navy Base, where they showed up with placards that read: "It's None of Your Business, Uncle Sam."

According to her friends, Phelps prided herself on challenging the status quo and never backed down from a battle.

"I figure she's probably up there raising hell right now," said Bukowski.

In addition to her positions at NOW, Phelps was a member of the Stonewall Democratic Club of Los Angeles and was appointed by Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina to the Commission on Veterans Affairs. She served on the commission from 1990 until 1993, when she left because of health problems.

Phelps was the recipient of many honors, but she was particularly touched by a tribute from the Veterans For Human Rights, in Portland, Oregon. The group holds an annual dinner in her honor. When the group began giving out the Sgt. Johnnie Phelps Awards in 1993, Phelps, who was known to be a tough and sometimes surly person, was brought to tears, said Bukowski.

In addition to Bukowski, Phelps is survived by an aunt, a cousin, and many friends.

A memorial service will be held for Phelps at the Alcoholism Center For Women in Los Angeles at 4 p.m. on Jan. 30. Contributions can be made in her name to the Alcoholism Center For Women at 1147 S. Alvarado St, Los Angeles, CA 90006, or Veterans For Human Rights, 208 SW Stark St., Portland, OR 97204.

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LETTERS

D'Amato deserves applause for bravery

I have to take exception with your article "Activists play hard to get in upcoming Senate race" (*New York Blade News*, Jan. 9). The story simply fails to tell the entire story. Senator Al D'Amato has done more than "increasingly taken pro-gay positions." He was one of only eight brave Republicans who defied their leaders to vote for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). Furthermore, in the current Congress, he signed on as an original sponsor of ENDA — something only two other Republicans have done. We will need more moderate Republicans to demonstrate such leadership if this bill is going to pass anytime soon.

While voters may find other reasons not to vote for D'Amato, his record on gay and lesbian issues should not be one of them. His presence in the Senate is an important contrast to Republicans like Jesse Helms and Trent Lott. D'Amato's record reminds us that there truly are fair-minded Republicans in Congress; they should be applauded for their efforts, not overlooked.

MAT YOUNG
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Duane praised for Times Square battle

I am writing in response to two letters (Letters to the Editor, *New York Blade News*, Jan. 2) that criticized Councilmember Tom Duane for his attempt, on behalf of all gay men and lesbians that have any degree of self-respect and esteem, to remove the clearly homophobic United States Armed Forces' recruitment center in Times Square.

The letters were written by the president of the Log Cabin Republicans and the "public relationist" of the Stonewall Republicans, and they excoriated Councilmember Duane. It seems to me that any opportunity we have to exercise our political muscle in this city should be vigorously pursued. If not here, where? Moreover, it astounds me that anyone could defend any organization that so definitively denies Americans the natural right to self-definition. The United States Armed Forces may offer a way out of poverty and to education, but not for openly gay men and lesbians.

By Jake Price

Tom Duane: forward into the breach

Shame on these two Uncle Toms for their flag-waving rhetoric on behalf of the military. I applaud Councilmember Duane for his efforts, and urge him into the breach.

MARK J. V.D. HAKALA
BROOKLYN

Take down 'beacon' and put up a statue

Regarding Councilmember Tom Duane's attempt to have the Armed Forces recruitment center in Times Square removed, I would like to state that I am in full agreement. Since the recruiting booth only services about 150 to 200 people a year, it is a poor waste of military personnel. They say it is a beacon for the underprivileged youths who frequent Times Square, but with the "beautification" of the area, the youths will no longer gather around it. And besides that, most underprivileged youths are homosexual, which are not welcomed into the Armed Forces.

What I would like to see in place of the recruiting booth is a statue to honor the men and women who have given their lives for their country. There might even be one in that vast warehouse, where so many statues are stored, that we hear about occasionally. The square could also be named Veterans Square.

WILLIAM J. MCCARTHY
GLB VETS
MANHATTAN

Recruiting station is nice backdrop

I was a little surprised by the letters deploring Tom Duane for seeking to oust the U.S. Armed Forces recruitment center in Times Square.

Tom Duane advocates removing the station because the military doesn't currently allow openly gays and lesbians to serve. As pacifists, we would hope that gays and lesbians, along with everyone else, would look on the military as an institution outdated by the reality of modern war.

However, I must admit a certain sadness would follow its removal. For so many years that recruiting center has been the focus for peace demonstrations in Times Square that I'd almost be sorry to see it go.

DAVID MCREYNOLDS
WAR RESISTORS LEAGUE
MANHATTAN

WE GET LETTERS

Have we gotten yours?

The *New York Blade News* encourages its readers to offer opinions on any topic of concern to the gay community. Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less, and may be edited for space and clarity. Be sure to include a daytime and evening contact number.

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First Person / Mark King

Meet the Raker

The very first man I had a crush on, when I was just a kid, wasn't entirely conscious. He was in a zombie trance. And his name was Quentin Collins.

Quentin was a dreamy zombie in a scary, odd little television series called *Dark Shadows*. He was played by David Selby with a glazed stare and sideburns the size of the Florida peninsula. I bought the *Dark Shadows* album just for the Quentin poster inside — which eclipsed the images on my bedroom walls of Bobby Sherman and David Cassidy. Lots of other gay boys must have caught sight of Quentin, because I'm convinced there are a disproportionate number of gays who love being scared to death.

Dark Shadows was the beginning of my fascination with all things gruesome. After short stints growing up with magic kits, Ouija boards, and candlelight séances in my garage, I found the perfect outlet for my morbid fascination at the movies.

Before there was Freddy Kruger or Jason, there was Vincent Price. Late in his career he slummed his way through several gory, perfectly fabulous movies, including my favorite, *Theater of Blood*. The opening of that fright fest was truly an adolescent milestone for me. But after standing in line for over an hour, I discovered the movie was rated "R" and I wasn't allowed inside. I walked home with visions of decapitations and mayhem fading like an old blood stain. But then my mother made her grandest gesture of my childhood.

She went back with me for the late show.

We screeched with delight as Vincent Price — who murdered people by re-creating the killings of Shakespearean tragedies — slashed his way through the movie. That night, through Mom's love of literature and my love of creative executions, we hooted and bonded through all the gore our eyeballs could handle.

At college, I met Lesley and found another gay man riveted by horror movies. We quickly became the closest of friends, trading videos with names like *Susperia* and *Carnival of Souls*. We also created the concept of the Raker.

In every scary movie, there is one character, usually early on, who warns the soon-to-be-victims to beware. "Don't go to Camp Blood!" he'll shout, or he'll ominously whisper that "People 'round here tell of a ghost with an ax, and they say that late at night..." We coined the term from a character in *Friday the 13th* who dispensed warnings while raking leaves.

The old man who threatens to snitch on the murderous girl in *The Bad Seed* is the Handyman Raker. The professor who warns not to disturb the sea — lest Godzilla be awakened — would be the Professor Raker. Amy Irving tried to stop the bloodshed in *Carrie*, making her the Girlfriend Raker. It's more fun when everyone ignores the Raker, of course, because then you get to experience the thrills and chills ahead.

While Lesley and I laughed through the slasher movies of the 1980s, real life rakers like Larry Kramer were sounding alarms about an emerging health catastrophe. Like the teens who never watch their backs in the slasher movies, Lesley and I didn't pay much attention. Our community's nightmare had begun, and Lesley developed AIDS in the early years of the crisis.

Even on his worst days, Lesley and I would see a matinee of the latest shocker — and somehow find it unconnected to the surreal horror he was actually living. Lesley soon developed a weak demeanor and a glazed look, a zombie Quentin without the sideburns.

While Lesley and I laughed through the slasher movies of the 1980s, real life rakers like Larry Kramer were sounding alarms about an emerging health catastrophe. Like the teens who never watch their backs in the slasher movies, Lesley and I didn't pay much attention.

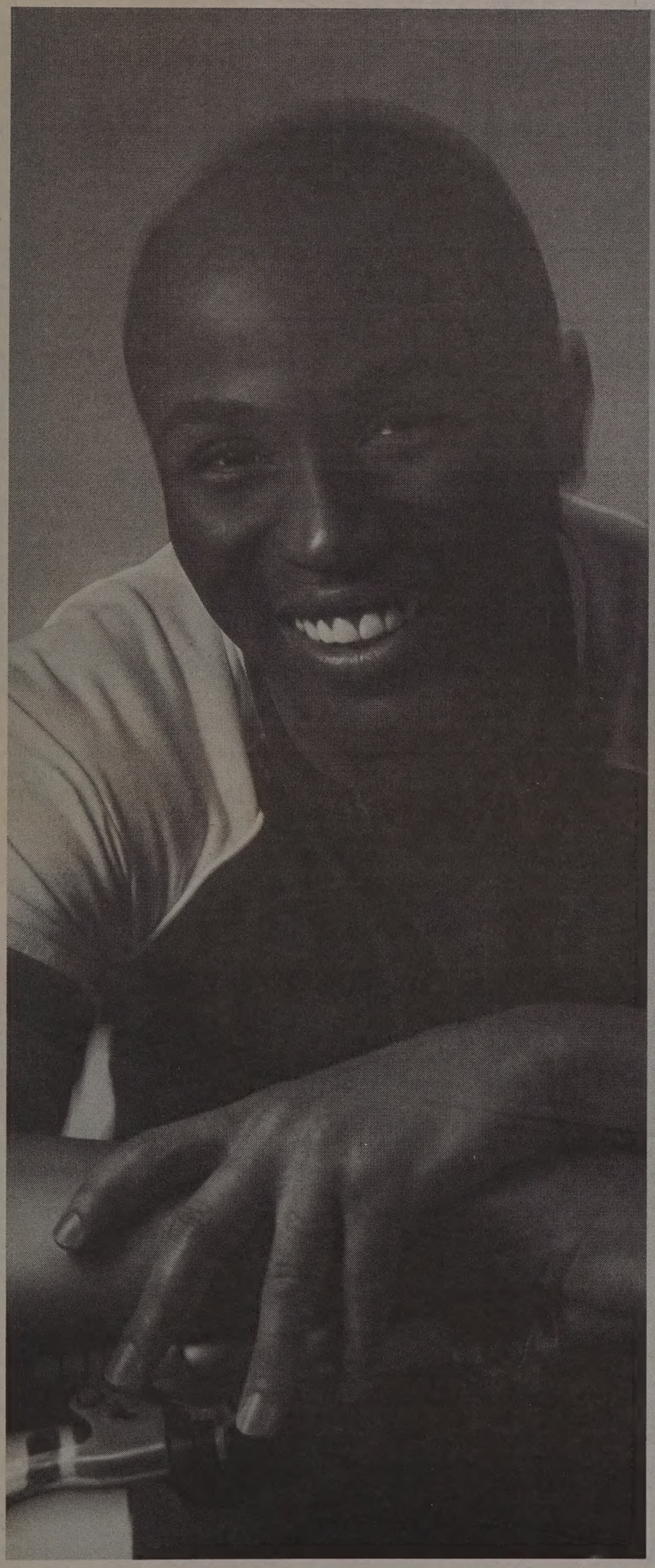
The night that Lesley died at home, several of us camped out in the living room, passing time during our vigil by watching *The Brain That Wouldn't Die*. We thought Lesley would appreciate the irony, even if the movie itself was nowhere near as compelling as the sight of our friend lying comatose in the adjoining room.

Lesley had stubbornly refused to acknowledge his own dying process, even though his doctors had sent him home and halted treatment. Finally, in our last conversation before he slipped into a coma, Lesley solemnly admitted he didn't think he was "going to make it." The concern in his sunken eyes, his wanting me not to be upset and to "brace" myself, showed a courage beyond my comprehension. He was — and I believe he would appreciate the distinction — the Self Raker. And the next hours were scary in ways that horror movies could never have prepared me.

These days, the gay community has some very outspoken rakers. Writers Gabriel Rotello and Michelangelo Signorile warn that the HIV slaughter will continue — flare up again, even — as long as our culture remains sexually permissive. At the other end of the spectrum, *Sex Panic!* is raking furiously, convinced our sexual rights are being stripped away.

Not that many people are listening. As always, it's exhilarating to ignore the Raker. This way we all get to experience the gruesome horror that lies just ahead.

Mark King works as an AIDS educator in Atlanta.



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ZERIT is approved for the treatment of HIV-infected persons who have already received prolonged AZT therapy. However, there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking ZERIT may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Please note that all HIV drugs cause side effects. ZERIT has been shown to cause tingling or pain in the hands or feet in 13% to 24% of people.

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INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy.

The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES

Study AI455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing ≥60 kg, and 30 mg BID for those weighing <60 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg TID.

The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range: 10 to 735 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 88 weeks (range 11 to 356 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline, 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 36% were asymptomatic.

Table 1 gives the Kaplan-Meier estimates for the time to disease progression.

Table 1 -- Incidence of Disease Progression

	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
	ZERIT	zidovudine
6 months	4.4%	5.7%
12 months	10.4%	14.1%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

* Kaplan-Meier estimates; the overall difference between stavudine and zidovudine was not significant.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,784 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two dose levels of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program[1]. In patients with less advanced HIV infection in the zidovudine comparative trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent of ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients.

Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy that is usually characterized by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, resumption of treatment may be considered at a reduced dose.

Patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy are at increased risk for the development of neuropathy. If stavudine must be administered in this clinical setting, careful monitoring is essential.

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT.

Patients should be informed that the most common toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy usually include tingling, burning, pain, or numbness in the hands or feet. Patients should be counseled that this toxicity occurs with greater frequency in patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy. They should be advised that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians and that dose changes may be necessary. They should also be cautioned about the use of other medications that may exacerbate peripheral neuropathy.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy.

Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be informed that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Laboratory Tests

Mild to moderate increases in AST (SGOT) and ALT (SGPT) occurred commonly in clinical trials; these did not interfere with continued therapy.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Long-term carcinogenicity studies of stavudine in animals have not been completed. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation).

[1] The parallel track program (STUDY A1455-900) treated 12,551 HIV-infected patients with CD4 counts <300/mm³ who had failed, were intolerant of, or had contraindications to other therapies.

In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy "Category C". Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of sternebra, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This is consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.

Pediatric Use

Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional safety data in 115 pediatric patients and pharmacokinetic data in 25 of these patients.

Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients (age range: 5 weeks to 15 years, weight range: 2 to 43 kg) after IV and oral administration of 0.125, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/kg as single doses and as BID regimens. The mean ± SD absolute bioavailability was 76.9 ± 31.7% (n=20). Peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) increased in proportion to dose after both single and multiple doses.

Following intravenous infusions (n=21), the mean ± SD volume of distribution was 18.5 ± 9.17 L/m². The distribution of stavudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 8 pediatric patients after 12 weeks of multiple oral dosing. The concentration of stavudine in CSF samples ranged form 0.008 to 0.105 µg/mL at times ranging from 2 to 3 hours post-dose (dose ranging from 0.125 to 1 mg/kg). CSF concentrations ranged from 16% to 125% (mean ± SD of 59% ± 35%) of the concentration in simultaneous plasma samples.

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean ± SD total body clearance after intravenous infusion was 247 ± 94 mL/min/m². The mean ± SD apparent oral clearance was 333 ± 87 mL/min/m². The percent of the dose excreted uncharged in the urine was 34.5% after oral administration.

The clearance of stavudine is related to both body surface area and body weight. When dosing according to body weight, the recommended dosage for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 2 mg/kg/day in divided doses. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT (stavudine) is peripheral neuropathy (see **"WARNINGS"** section).

Adults: Peripheral neuropathy is dose related (see Table 2). Modest elevation of hepatic transaminases was also observed commonly in controlled trials.

Table 2
Peripheral Neuropathy Leading to Dose Modification

	%			
	Study AI455-019		Parallel Track Program	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=5905)	ZERIT (20 mg BID) (n=5879)
Peripheral Neuropathy				
Grade 1-2	11	3	20	17
Grade 3-4	2	1	4	2
Total	13	4	24	19

Selected adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study AI455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Table 3
Selected Clinical Adverse Events in the Phase 3 Controlled Clinical Trials [1]

Adverse Events	% Study AI455-019[2] ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	50	51
Diarrhea	50	43
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	44
Abdominal Pain	34	27
Myalgia	32	35
Insomnia	29	31
Anorexia	19	22
Allergic Reaction	9	8
Pancreatitis	*	*

* This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
[1] Includes all clinical complaints.
[2] Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study AI455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Table 4
Controlled Clinical Trials: Incidence of Adult Laboratory Abnormalities[a]

Lab Tests (units)	% Study AI455-019[b] ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) (≤5.0 x ULN[c])	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (≤5.0 x ULN)	13	11
Bilirubin (>5.0 x ULN)	2	2
Anemia (<8.0 g/dL)	*	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils <750/mm³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm³)	3	3
Amylase (>1.4 x ULN)	14	13

* This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
[a] Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.
[b] Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; mediation duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.
[c] ULN = upper limit of normal.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. It is not known whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Table 5

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964 15	60	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965 20	60	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966 30	60	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967 40	60	0003-1967-01

ZERIT for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label. ZERIT for Oral Solution is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water (**NDC** No. 0003-1968-01).
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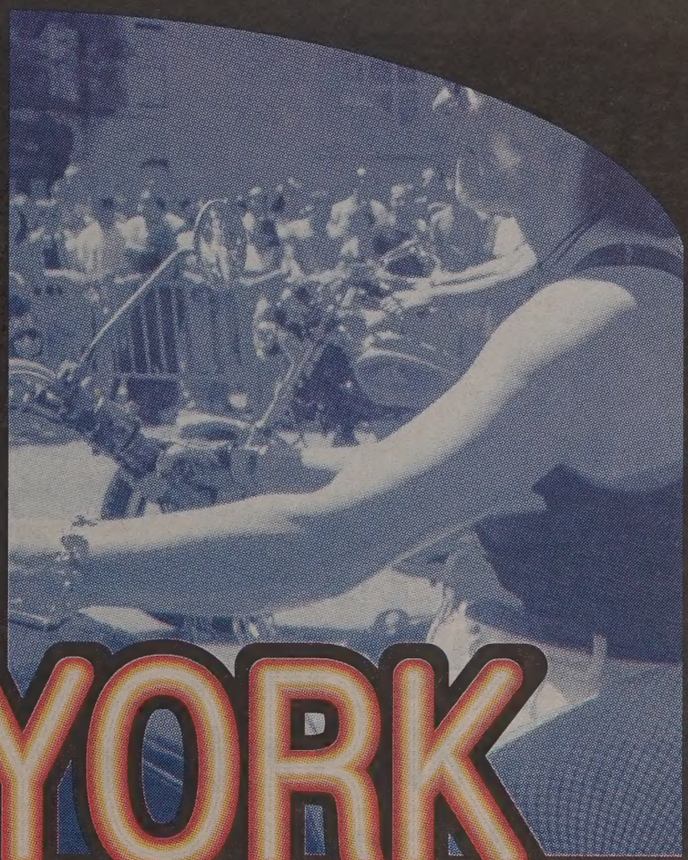

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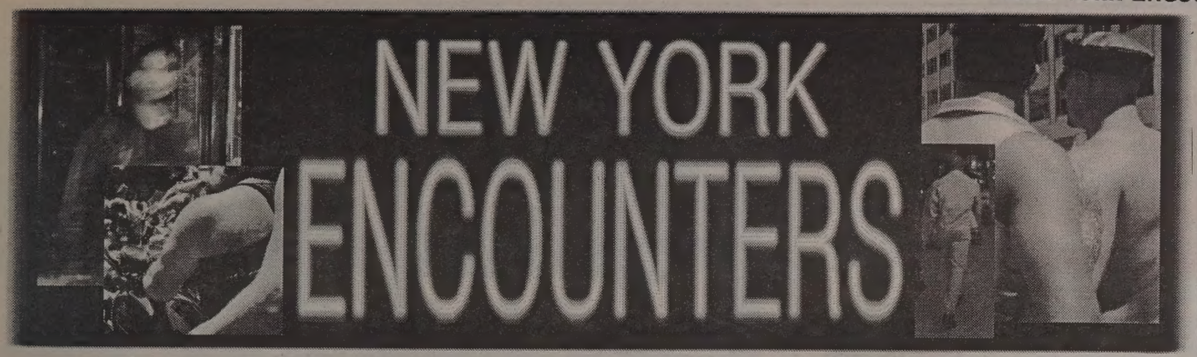

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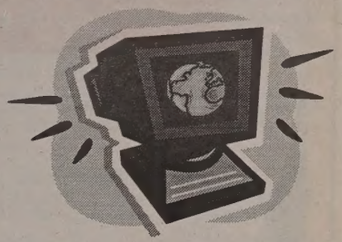

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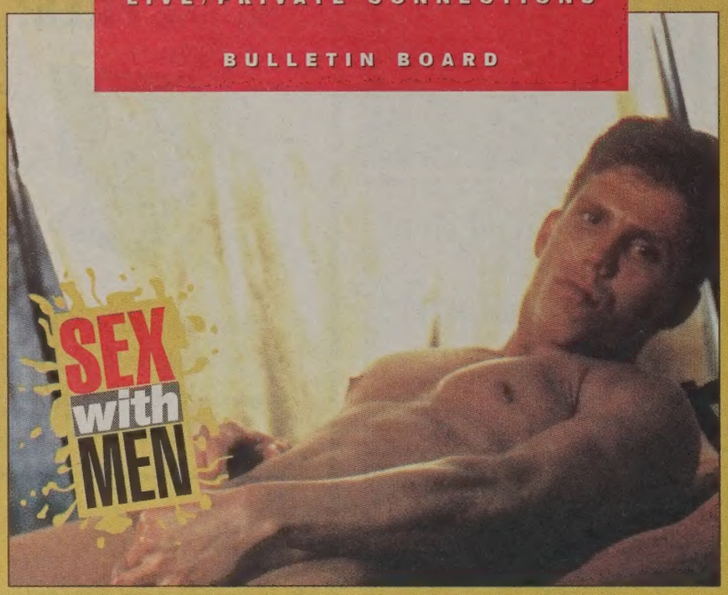

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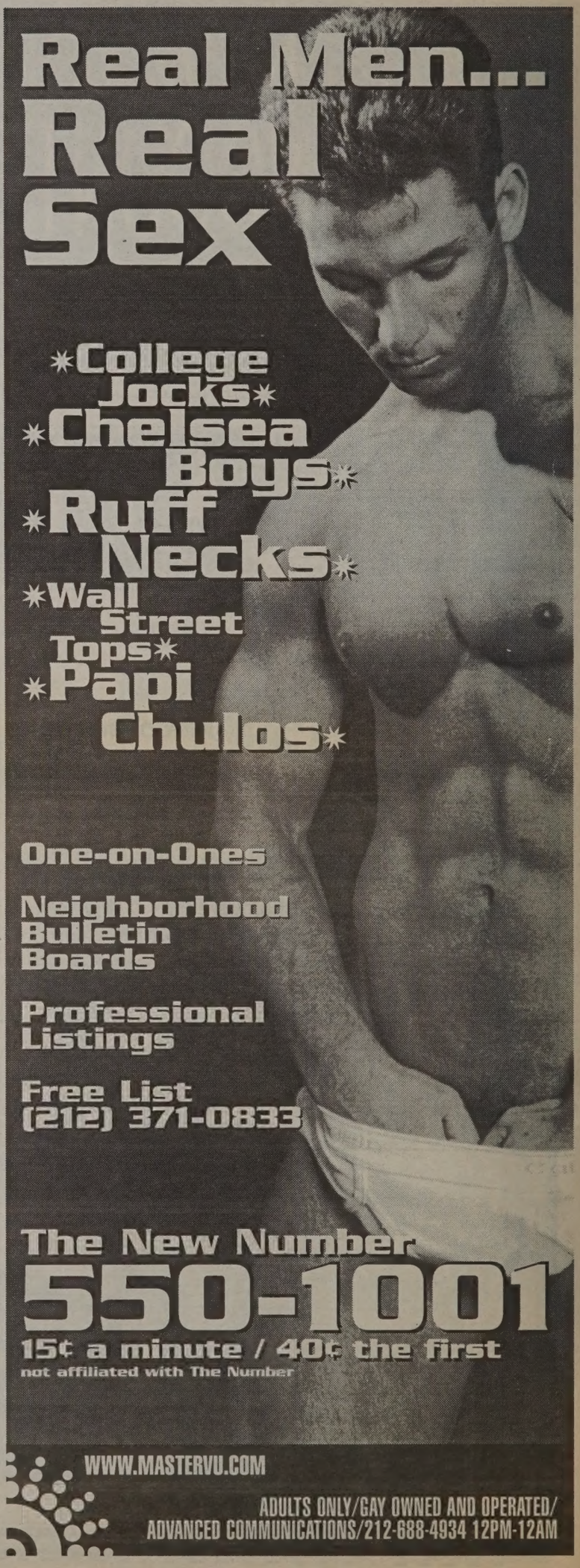

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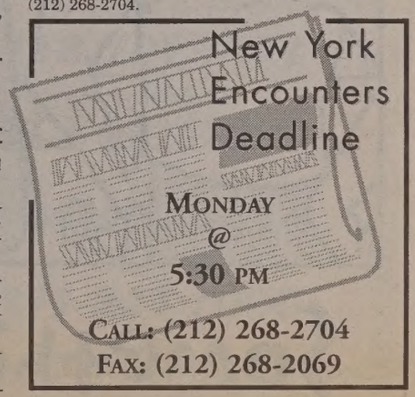

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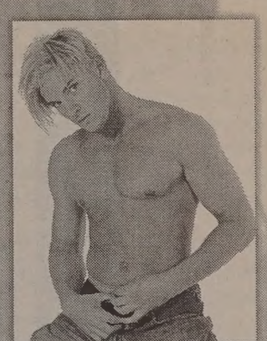

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Susan Wright includes an inter-species same-sex relationship in her latest Star Trek novel, *The Best and the Brightest.*

THE FINAL FRONTIER

Susan Wright boldly goes where no Star Trek novelist has gone before

BY ROSE MARTELLI

Star Trek is boldly going where it has only hinted before.

In the latest literary installment of the legendary science-fiction saga, *Star Trek: The Next Generation: The Best and the Brightest* (Pocket Books), by New York City author Susan Wright, six new characters are introduced into the intergalactic mix. Two of them have an inter-species, same-sex relationship, a first for the series.

Set at the Starfleet Academy, the training ground for future Trekkers, *The Best and the Brightest* offers up everything readers would expect from a Star Trek story — the high-tension space capers, the nifty techno-jargon — and more, in the same-sex romance between characters Jayme Miranda and Moll Enor.

But just because there are two women in love, don't expect the word "lesbian" to appear in the text. It's an irrelevant term in their far-out world.

"In Star Trek, in the 24th century, there are no labels, which is actually a wonderful thing," explains Wright. "It's just taken for granted, it's just taken as natural that these two people would have an intense relationship. It's nothing to be remarked on."

Don't expect to read a lesbian love story that's as far-fetched as a human-Klingon alliance, either. In the book, Wright exhibits a knack for sticking to the Star Trek basics (she says she consulted timelines, old episodes, and The *Star Trek Encyclopedia* during the writing process) while entrenching her characters' emotions in the stuff of real life.

"When I write fiction," says Wright, "I really do tend to rely a lot on reality."

Wright also writes non-fiction books. From her coffee-table book about artist Georgia O'Keeffe to her recent illustrated book *Destination Mars*, Wright has often tackled cultural themes around science and feminism, just never in a story as succinct as *The Best and the Brightest.*

While the lesbian story line is a first for the Star Trek legacy, Wright, a longtime Trekker who has "watched every episode of the original series multiple times," doesn't think she's in any way blaspheming tradition. Although gay subtext has always remained latent rather than blatant, it's been a given since the original *Star Trek* series on 1960s television.

"I think [the late *Star Trek* creator] Gene Roddenberry was the one who initiated this, and I think he'd be proud," she says. "The history of Star Trek has always been about presenting gender and sexual alternatives. Science fiction does confront stereotypes; it does try to get beyond the traditional boundaries of technology, culture, and sexuality."

Though such a bias-free utopia exists in a fictitious galaxy far, far away, the powers that be at Pocket Books and Paramount Pictures (which owns the Star Trek trademark) were both encouraging of Wright's decision to include a lesbian couple in the novel. Wright made the relationship a stipulation upfront when approached her publisher about doing a new installment with new characters.

"As far as I was concerned, it had to have homosexuality as a major thread," explains Wright, who had previously penned three other Star Trek books, all with established characters from the television programs *The Next Generation, Voyager,* and *Deep Space Nine.* "And John Ordover and Carol Greenberg, my editors at Pocket, said, 'Great.'"

"This was something we had been wanting to find a way to do, both Susan and us here at Pocket," says Ordover, Pocket Books Senior Editor for Star Trek Fiction.

Star Trek books, however, don't generally break such significant new ground until the television series has dealt with an issue — writers can't make characters do things in books that they wouldn't do on screen — so Pocket Books had to wait for an opening in the TV series. That break came last year on *Deep Space Nine.*

"Ever since *Deep Space Nine* did its lesbian kiss episode, that gave us the green light to go ahead and do something," says Ordover, noting that the idea of a same-sex plot met with no resistance from Paramount. "From that moment, we wanted to do something to show that it's quite in line with the path Star Trek has been hoeing since the 1960s. It was important to show that it was no more a big deal to have a same-sex relationship than to have a relationship between someone with blue eyes and someone with brown eyes."

In fact, everyone involved was so comfortable with the story line that no special plans have been made to tailor the book's marketing accordingly or to pitch it to a specifically gay demographic, says Ordover.

"This sort of thing should not be considered a marketing hook," Ordover says. "We have no intention in marketing this as 'the lesbian book.' This will be presented as completely natural and completely unremarkable."

"The greater concern for marketing," says Wright, "is the fact that it's all new characters, because we're wondering if this is something people are going to enjoy and if they're going to want to see more of it."

Part of Wright's desire to put a same-sex love story in *The Best and the Brightest* stems from her community activism. She works as the executive director of the National Coalition for Sexual Freedom, an advocacy group fighting for positive media portrayals of alternative sexualities. She also volunteers every June at the Leather Pride Night auction, which has raised funds for gay groups and anti-censorship organizations, including the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, Feminists for Free Expression, and the city's annual Gay Pride parade. Through her community involvement, Wright — much like her Star Trek characters — promotes positive portrayals of different sexualities.

"Mainly, these groups believe that people should be allowed to be with who they want to be," says Wright.

In her personal life, this means that Wright doesn't put a name on her sexual identity. Though she's in a long-term relationship with a man right now, she's been with women in the past — "I guess bisexual is the closest word," she says — and she prefers to leave the question of her sexuality open.

"I'm fighting against the whole idea of identity and labels," she says. "I think people's sexuality is more fluid than that. I don't like to identify as lesbian, bisexual, or heterosexual. I'm simply a sexual person."

"In Star Trek terms," says Wright, translating across four centuries, "this means that we defe..d the rights of people like Dax on *Deep Space Nine* and Worf the Klingon, who have a very, shall we say, strenuous sexual relationship. I enjoy the way that Star Trek plays with sexuality and turns it into something that's a personal choice and that you can explore any way you like. So I saw a way that I could actually put that into this book."

As a Star Trek scribe, part of Wright's rite of passage has been attending Star Trek conventions, where she says she has been warmly received and where her instincts about a culture of exploration and tolerance have been confirmed.

"The impact of all these people dressed up in costume is amazing. It gives them the freedom to be something that they aren't and to express a side of themselves they never normally get to express," says Wright. "They got to be adventurous and I loved it. There's so much enthusiasm, it's fantastic."

As Wright continues, it becomes difficult to distinguish whether she's talking about the community she lives in or the community she has created in her writing.

"It becomes a very real world where people who have never met before want to talk to each other as friends," she says. "There's a closeness among everyone, because we're building something. And we're not just doing it on our own; we're standing on the shoulders of giants. It's a wonderful, shared universe."

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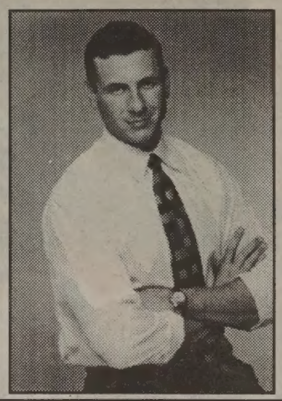

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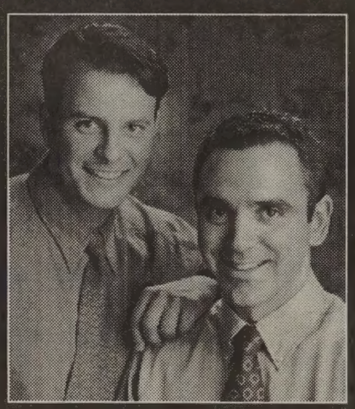

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Rick and Samir share a moment in the French film *Full Speed.*

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Full Speed depicts a young man's turmoil

BY BOB SATULOFF

If reality bites, at least it's interesting to watch. *Full Speed (A Toute Vitesse)*, the filmmaking debut of young French actor-turned-writer/director Gael Morel, confronts the angst-ridden 20s with narrative sophistication, psychological depth, and visual splendor.

Set in a French country town, this heart-on-its-sleeve drama focuses on a quartet of friends who face issues of love, loyalty, betrayal, and prejudice, and it's rendered in a style that's as woozily romantic as the flowering fields and sun-dappled forests captured by Jeanne Lapoirie's camera.

The story centers on Quentin (Pascal Cervo), a promising new novelist who sees more advantage in processing the experiences of his peers than in diving into a life of his own. Avoiding a physical relationship with his adoring girlfriend Julie (Elodie Bouchez), Quentin spends more time with his devoted confidant Jimmy (Stephane Rideau), creating a close-knit trio. He also gets involved with a simmering-eyed, young Arab immigrant named Samir (Meziane Bardadi), expanding his circle. But when Samir declares his love for him, Quentin drops Samir like a hot potato.

As Quentin deserts his three friends, they begin to bond. Realizing that Quentin will never give her the relationship she wants, Julie turns her attention to Jimmy. He has feelings for her, too, but is reluctant to express them because of his loyalty to Quentin.

Unable to forgive himself for allowing Quentin to exploit him — as if the writer's emotional betrayal weren't enough, he's made Samir's life story the subject of his new novel — Samir vents his rage at those townspeople whose contempt for the Arab newcomers is undisguised. Once he taps into the town's racial hatred, Samir touches off a chain of events that has a devastating impact on the lives of all four characters.

Immersed completely in a world of the young — the only people over 30 in the movie are the local fascists who attack Samir — *Full Speed* is even set in the springtime, with enough imagery of nature bursting into brightly colored bloom to give the audience a collective sneezing fit. But what it lacks in subtlety, it gains in intensity. Morel harnesses the film's dramatic energy by containing its characters' emotions until they're ready to blow sky high.

Morel has also cast the film perfectly. Cervo plays Quentin in an appropriately low-key way, making him the almost-innocent victim of his own manipulative, self-denying nature. Bouchez (who starred with Morel in *Wild Reeds)* imbues Julie with freshness and vitality, and Bardadi's intense Samir lends the film much of its dramatic weight. Tall, skinny, and a bit funny-faced, Rideau *(Wild Reeds)* not only delivers the film's most affecting performance, but he projects more sensuality than a roomful of Brad Pitts.

Full Speed *is now showing at the Quad Cinemas, 34 W. 13th St.*

Party of five

Gonin is visually striking but violent and confusing

BY DAVID NOH

Revenge is anything but sweet in *Gonin.* In this Japanese gangster movie about a band of misfits who pull off a big theft from the Ogoshi crime mob, nobody escapes bitter vengeance.

In a recreational batting cage one night, Bandai (Koichi Sato), a debt-riddled disco owner, meets Ogiwara (Naoto Takenaka), a recently fired executive and family man. Both facing financial and emotional ruin, they join forces with three other misfits: a poor blond pimp named Jimmy (Kippei Shiina), an ex-cop brought down by public scandal named Hizu (Jimpachi Nezu), and an effeminate gay hustler named Mitsuya (Masahiro Motoki). While Mitsuya looks like a pushover, he earns Bandai's respect when he stabs a gangster who tries to force a kiss from him.

The quintet *(Gonin* means "the five" in Japanese) decide to pull off a heist, entering an Ogoshi office and robbing the mobsters at gunpoint. The mob isn't going to let the money go without a fight, however. They get revenge.

It's not surprising that director Takeshi Ishii was originally a creator of manga magazines (comic-book pulp fiction), as *Gonin* is visually striking and fast-paced but completely lacking in depth. The plot is impossible to follow, since the characters are mostly undifferentiated and often barely visible for all the arty lighting and angles. Nearly every scene begins or culminates in a savage beating or shooting. Aside from a nod to Peter Greenaway's elaborately designed set pieces, the director's major influence would seem to be Quentin Tarantino, with his flashy cynicism and jolts of random violence.

Mitsuya and Bandai build a unique relationship amid the action in the Japanese film *Gonin.*

Takenaka may be familiar to viewers from his nerdy turn in *Shall We Dance.* His performance here is a basic reprise of that role, with psychopathic elements thrown in. Sato has the cherubic, wide-eyed good looks so highly favored in Asian commercial cinema and, like his fellow cast members, brings a ton of attitude but little else to his part.

The gay components here are nothing to shout about, either. However daring it may have seemed to include them, *Gonin* isn't nearly as open as other Japanese films like *Okoge.* Besides one single, swooningly romantic and totally unexpected kiss, there's only the occasional rape or viciously muttered slur to clue in the audience.

Gonin *opens on Jan. 16 at the Cinema Village, 22 E. 12th St.*

Fresh *Flesh*

Film shows Pedro Almodóvar's maturation

It's Christmas Eve in Madrid, 1970. Franco is in power, and the city feels drained of life. A woman screams in the night, a prostitute about to give birth. Her madam escorts her out into the desolate streets, where they flag down an out-of-service bus. Before reaching the hospital, however, the mother-to-be's water breaks, and a baby boy comes into the world. She holds her infant, Victor, up to the bus window so he can see the possibilities Madrid has to offer.

In this gorgeous sequence that begins his new film, *Live Flesh,* and the superb, twisting narrative that unfolds afterward, gay Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar has finally matured into the filmmaker audiences hoped he'd become after such mid-1980s pop melocomedies as *Law of Desire* and *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown.* His best work to date, *Live Flesh* more than makes up for his less-than-stellar output of the past decade.

Almodóvar has also found a worthy successor to Antonio Banderas, who appeared in his earlier films. As Victor, Liberto Rabal gives the type of vulnerable, sexually charged performance that is sure to gain him the kind of international attention that greeted Banderas.

Victor doesn't fare much better as an adult than his mother did in Madrid. By the age of 20, lies and corruption — remnants of the Franco era — and old-style machismo have screwed up his life. His downfall begins after he sneaks into the apartment of Elena (Francesca Neri), the drug-addicted woman with whom he lost his virginity the previous week. He hopes to repeat the act, but the cops burst in. A scuffle ensues, during which a gunshot shatters the spinal cord of one of the officers. The innocent Victor is blamed.

After serving several years in prison, Victor is released.

Rather than seek revenge, however, Victor strives to become a better man and lover, even as the macho men who once victimized him became more violent and less appealing.

Though based on a novel by crime writer Ruth Rendell, this riff on Spanish masculinity during and after Franco is pure Almodóvar, rich in irony and coincidence and filled with characters fueled by passion and revenge. However, its structure is more solid, and the themes more tightly woven into the narrative than in Almodóvar's previous, often raggedly plotted works. His filmmaking has also matured. He's more visually confident and less interested in shocking his audience. He no longer wants to distance viewers, but to draw them in. In *Live Flesh*, he draws in his audience beautifully.

— MICHAEL ZAM

Live Flesh *is now playing at the Angelika Film Center and Lincoln Plaza Cinemas.*

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Project Connect offers assessment, an individualized care plan, and one-on-one counseling for those concerned about drug and alcohol use.

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- **Connecting Group for Men** – Monday evenings; begins early February for 10-12 weeks.
- **Young Gay Men's Connecting To Change Group** – (Ages 19-25) Begins early February; date to be announced.

Pre-registration <u>REQUIRED</u> for all groups.
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Gender games

In this heyday of gender theorizing, performance artist Kate Bornstein is looking for ways to live beyond the man/woman binary. "I look for where gender is, then I go someplace else," she writes. For readers who are curious about where that other place is and how to get there, *My Gender Workbook* (Routledge, $16.95) is a good first step.

The workbook — and though it's humorous, Bornstein does mean work — is a collection of Bornstein's writings on topics from the role of gender in American culture to practical tips for a life of gender transformation. Each section is followed by simple and entertaining exercises that are designed to aid readers in sorting out their feelings on gender and how they relate to it on the most

Homework was never quite like this. Kate Bornstein's *My Gender Workbook* helps readers see beyond gender.

basic levels. The exercises are mostly painless but are always abounding with the potential for self-revelation if answered honestly. Bornstein has collected observations on every angle of gender from nearly 200 people and uses them throughout to enhance the text.

My Gender Workbook is at times redundant, and sometimes seems like a loose collection of thoughts. Despite that, it is a thorough, supportive, and much needed nuts-and-bolts guide to untangling the quandary of culture, desire, and chromosomes. Bornstein gets off the well-trodden path of hardcore theorizing and guides the reader on an extraordinarily insightful and personalized journey through gender.

—ANNGEL DELANEY

New Age *Gay Body*

If readers can get past his frequent New Age platitudes and precious prose, former *Advocate* editor Mark Thompson's idiosyncratic memoir-cum-treatise on what ails American gay male society has some surprisingly compelling insights.

In *Gay Body: A Journey through Shadow to Self* (St. Martin's, $24.95), Thompson follows the lead of therapist Richard Isay *(Becoming Gay)* and others in asserting that one of the biggest problems besetting the modern gay man is his relationship with his father and the resulting crises of masculinity. What really makes this book stand out from other books is its combination of New Age philosophy and the thoroughly urban sexuality Thompson refuses to distance himself from. It's a combination readers don't often see: Descriptions like "my big, round butt thrust toward heaven, getting beaten in the rosy light of a new dawn" are set alongside discussions of spirit and amorphous forces of good and ill that Thompson believes influence men's lives. This juxtaposition allows Thompson to make striking hybrid observations: "Men find their worth, define their manliness, through trials of endurance such as the one I sought out and received that night. They must expose their limits, submit to fiery tests, in order to spiritually grow."

Taken together with a cleanly frank discussion of his long-term and loving childhood sexual relationship with his aggressive younger brother, *Gay Body* manages to be both entertaining and enlightening in unexpected ways.

—BERT ARCHER

French kisses

In Naomi Holoch's first novel, *Offseason* (Faber and Faber, $23.95), Miriam has harbored an unrequited love for the self-contained, enigmatic, and heterosexual Gabriella for some time. It isn't surprising, therefore, that Miriam drops everything when she hears Gabriella is in trouble and feverishly pursues the troubled woman across the ocean.

She finds her long lost friend, and the cosmopolitan pair maneuvers the narrow, winding streets of Paris, drinking, smoking, eating, and talking. They court each other and clash in ritzy lesbian bars and crowded restaurants. They are pulled and pushed this way and that by various friends who believe they know what's best for each.

Miriam comes to realize she has inserted herself into the middle of a not-quite-finished marriage, the depths and convolutions of which she cannot and does not want to understand. Gabriella's jilted husband seems to be physically and emotionally lurking around every corner. The shifts and turns of events reveal issues of intimacy, delusions, and abuse.

This nuanced, atmospheric novel can be construed as a cautionary tale on the dangers of seducing a heterosexual, or the dangers of romantic obsession, or even the dangers of falling for a close friend. Be careful what you wish for, Holoch warns, because in cases like this it actually comes true.

—RANDI HOFFMAN

SELECTED SPRING 1998

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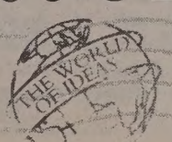

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BY NICHOLAS BOGGS

The proliferation of gay characters on network television continues, with recent episodes of *Melrose Place* and *Homicide: Life on the Street* adding more gay themes to the prime-time mix.

But more does not always mean better.

Melrose Place, known by many for its now-defunct plot line involving the always sweet and always celibate gay character Matt Fielding (Doug Savant), is now featuring a scheming and deranged bisexual character, Connie Rexworth (Megan Ward).

The show continues its failure to deliver a convincing gay character, offering instead the tired extremes of the sexless Savant and the psychotic Ward, who merely picks up where *Basic Instinct* left off.

on the air

Ward's character plots to disrupt the bliss of Billy and Samantha, *Melrose Place's* picture-perfect heterosexual newlyweds. As a bisexual woman, Ward's character is depicted as especially well-equipped for the devious task — she's prepared to seduce both of them.

A recent plot line on *Homicide: Life on the Street* offers viewers some respite from this limited consideration of gay and bisexual identities.

The Jan. 2 episode of the crime series dealt with the murder investigation of a gay man outside a gay restaurant. When Detective Bayliss (Kyle Secor) investigated the murder, a visit to the restaurant leads him to examine his own sexuality. By the end of the episode, he agreed to have dinner with the gay owner of the restaurant, Chris Rawls (Peter Gallagher).

While the exchange between Bayliss, a main character in the show, and his partner Pemberton (Andre Braugher) was an engaging consideration of anti-gay violence and homophobia, the show more often equates gay life with a randy "street life."

Nonetheless, Bayliss' determination to "discover all sides of myself" in an open fashion, a plot line that continues in ensuing episodes, is a welcome departure from the televised world of lascivious lesbians and perpetually single gay men.

fri. 16

Soap: Billy Crystal plays gay man Jodie Dallas in repeats of this groundbreaking, side-splitting sitcom. (30 min.) *Comedy Central at 11 a.m.* **CC**

The Brini Maxwell Show: Maxwell, a cross between Martha Stewart and RuPaul, offers "home tips for the urban dweller." *Channel 17 at 8:30 p.m.*

Homicide: Life on the Street: Police find new information about a murder-suicide. In a possible violation of rules, Gharty and Ballard venture out of their jurisdiction in order to follow suspects. Also, the character of Detective Bayliss has recently indicated that he is bisexual, in a storyline that will continue this season. (1 hr.) *NBC at 10 p.m.*

Salmonberries: "Smoking" crooner k.d. lang stars as a blue collar worker who falls for a German librarian in small-town Alaska. Rosel Zech, Chuck Connors, and Wolfgang Steinberg also star in this quirky film. (1 hr. 35 min.) *Bravo at 11 p.m.*

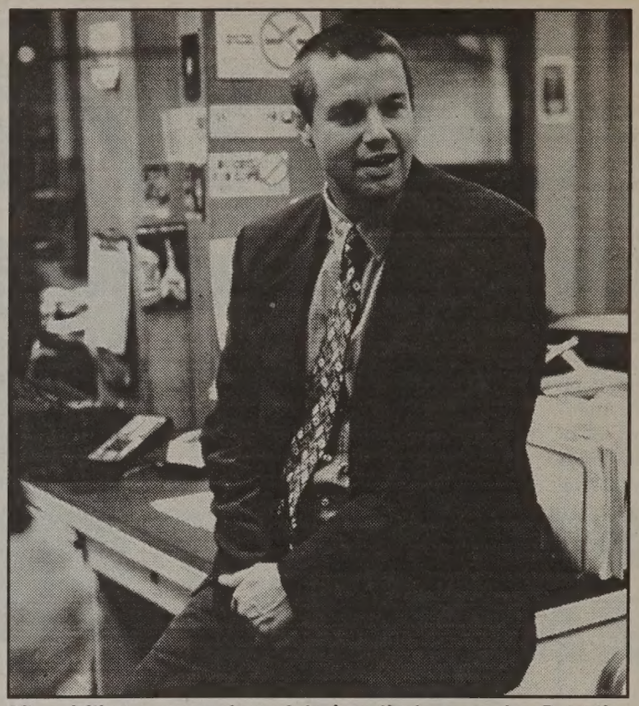
sat. 17

Absolutely Fabulous: Edina and Patsy slug their way through society parties and fashion shows. (40 min.) *Comedy Central at 4, 4:40, and 5:20 p.m.*

Real World Marathon: The now-defunct Boston team is the subject of six back-to-back episodes. Viewers will get to see lipstick lesbian Genesis in action. (3 hrs.) *MTV at 6 p.m.* **CC**

The X-Files: FBI agents Scully and Mulder investigate a murderer who can switch genders. As it turns out, the murderer is also a member of a religious group called the Kindred. (1 hr.) *FOX at 7 p.m.* **CC**

Legends: Indeed, Elton John is a legend, and VH1 has set out to make sure of it. Each week, the entertainment channel has some sort of profile of the recently knighted, gay entertainer. (1 hr.) *VH1 at 8 p.m.*



After visiting a gay restaurant to investigate a murder, Detective Bayliss (Kyle Secor) questions his own sexuality on recent episodes of *Homicide: Life on the Street*.

Xena: Warrior Princess: Xena episodes are never simple. In this new episode, the actual Xena creates three "other" Xenas to help keep her busy schedule. (1 hr.) *WPIX (WB) at 9 p.m.* **CC**

One Night Stand: Ellen DeGeneres, the woman that on everyone's 1997 list, performs the stand-up routine that got her into the business. Taped in Miami Beach, this show features DeGeneres talking about music, childhood, and airline food. (30 min.) *Comedy Central at 9 p.m.*

RuPaul: The queen of all media hosts guests from all areas of entertainment. (30 min.) *Weekdays on VH1 at 11 p.m.*

sun. 18

Xena: Warrior Princess: Repeat. See Saturday's listing. (1 hr.) *WPIX (WB) at 2 p.m.* **CC**

The First Wives Club: Gay screenwriter Paul Rudnick was called in to doctor up the script to this movie. Three women (Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, and Diane Keaton) play housewives on the loose seeking revenge on their husbands. (1 hr. 45 min.) *Cinemax at 7:45 p.m.* **CC**

Foxfire: Lesbian model Jenny Shimuzu and her friends all seek to avenge the men in their school. A stranger comes into town and helps them get into all sorts of trouble — including shooting someone. The stranger also falls for one of the girls, making it difficult to leave town. (1 hr. 45 min.) *The Movie Channel at 3:25 p.m.*

The Golden Globe Awards: Among the nominees for various film and television awards are *L.A. Confidential, My Best Friend's Wedding, Chasing Amy, Chicago Hope,* and *NYPD Blue*, all of which have a gay character or actor in them. (3 hrs.) *NBC at 8 p.m.* **CC**

Pacific Blue: A gay judge is assaulted by a group of teenagers. (1 hr.) *USA at 8 p.m.* **CC**

Legends: While Janis Joplin's sexuality was the subject of much speculation, the bottom line was that the woman could sing. (1 hr.) *VH1 at 10 p.m.*

Hedda Lettuce: The drag star comes out of the nightclubs and into your living room. And she still looks perfect. *Channel 69 at 12 a.m.*

mon. 19

Love! Valour! Compassion: Terrence McNally's Broadway adaptation is livened up by Seinfeld's Jason Alexander. The story is about eight gay men who get together at a summer house, leading the way for humor, fights, and love. (1 hr. 55 min.) *Continuous airings on pay-per-view (Channel 61) beginning at 11 a.m.*

All My Children: This daytime soap features Kevin Sheffield (Ben Jorgensen), who fights with his mother over his homosexuality. Jorgensen has received a nod from *TV Guide* as best supporting actor in a daytime drama. (1 hr.) *ABC weekdays at 1 p.m.* **CC**

Married...with Children: Lesbian Amanda Bearse plays Marcy in this sometimes-tasteless sitcom. Back-to-back episodes daily. (1 hr.) WWOR (UPN) *weeknights at 6 and 6:30 p.m.* **CC**

Lesbian and Gay Center: Call-in show. (30 min.) *Channel 17 at 6:30 p.m.*

Chasing Amy: A classic theme: Two guys fall in love with a lesbian and, of course, they compete in order to "win" her. Stars Ben Affleck, Jason Lee and Joey Lauren Adams. From the director of *Clerks.* (1 hr. 55 min.) *Continuous airings on pay-per-view (Channel 61) beginning at 7:30 p.m.*

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: More antics on this popular show, featuring live male strippers direct from your favorite gay videos. *Channel 35 at 10:30 p.m.*

Jeffrey: Steven Weber stars as a man wants to get back in the dating scene but doesn't want to deal with HIV. Michael T. Weiss comes into the picture and rocks his world. *Star Trek's* Patrick Stewart also stars in this comedy, written by gay playwright Paul Rudnick. (1 hr. 35 min.) *The Movie Channel at 11:20 p.m.*

Airplane: In this over-the-top film, Stephen Strucker plays a fey air traffic controller. Julie Hagerty also stars. Please don't call her Shirley. (1 hr. 30 min.) *Showtime at 11:25 p.m.* **CC**

Kids in the Hall: Brain Candy: The comedy troupe, which includes openly gay comedian Scott Thompson (*The Larry Sanders Show*), pokes fun at an antidepressant drug that melts in your mind, not in your hands. (1 hr. 30 min.) *Cinemax at 2:45 a.m.*

tue. 20

Drew Carey: Drew claims medical insurance for his "same-sex partner," and the company wants to him to prove that indeed he has one. (30 min.) ABC at 8 p.m. CC

Justice Files: A look at some of the issues that face urban America today: AIDS and crime. (1 hr.) Discovery Channel at 11 p.m.

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: See Monday listing. Channel 35 at 11:30 p.m.

wed. 21

In the Gloaming: This made-for-cable movie focuses on the relationship between a mother (Glenn Close) and her gay son Danny (Robert Sean Leonard), who is dying of AIDS-related complications. (1 hr. 5 min.) *HBO at 10 a.m.*. **CC**

My So Called Life: Wilson Cruz stars as a bisexual queen in this high-school drama. (1 hr.) *MTV at 7 p.m.*

Spin City: This show stars Michael Boatman as Michael J. Fox's gay officemate, the confident Carter Heywood. The Mayor gets an advance for his second book, and suddenly he develops writer's block. Mike begins to worry about his prostate after an exam. (30 min.) *ABC at 8 p.m.* **CC**

Great Performances: "Creating Ragtime." How the novel was turned into a musical, including interviews with playwright Terrence McNally. *Channel 13 at 9 p.m.*

Ellen: Ellen lets her fingers do the walking in order to find a gay plumber who will fix her sink in time for a party. (30 min.) *ABC at 9:30 p.m.* **CC**

Chicago Hope: Dr. Hancock, who came out earlier this season, is featured in this hospital drama. In this episode, the producers give a tribute to Alfred Hitchcock. Expect to see birds and people who have last names like "Perkins." (1 hr.) *CBS at 10 p.m.* **CC**

Real World: Catholic Elka decides to have some fun in this episode. (30 min.) *MTV at 10 p.m.*

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: See Monday listing. *Channel 35 at 1 a.m.*

thu. 22

VH1 to One: See Saturday listing. (30 min.) *VH1 at 11:30 a.m.*

First Wives Club: See Sunday listing. *Cinemax at 6:15 p.m.*

My So Called Life: See Wednesday listing. *MTV at 7 p.m.*

Ask Harriet: This less-than-amusing show is about a man who poses as a female advice columnist in order to keep working at a newspaper. In this episode, Sylvia has to face a gynecologist in order to receive her paycheck. (30 min.) *FOX at 8:30 p.m.* **CC**

Veronica's Closet: Josh, played by Wallace Langham, is expected to come out later this season, according to sources in the industry. His character's confused sexuality is the source of most of his humor. In this episode, Ronnie appears on *Entertainment Tonight*. Leeza Gibbons and Bob Goen also star. (30 min.) *NBC at 9:30 p.m.* **CC**

Homovisiones: Variety show for gay Latinos, featuring interviews and entertainment. *Channel 34 at 10:30 p.m.*

Gay USA: National gay news and entertainment. *Channel 35 at 11 p.m. Last week's episode is repeated on Channel 34 at 2 a.m.*

The Brini Maxwell Show: See Friday listing. *Channel 34 at 11:30 p.m.*

Men in Films: An entire show devoted the latest gay porn. Interviews, too. *Channel 35 at 12 a.m.*

Robin Byrd's Men for Men: See Monday listing. *Channel 35 at 12:30 a.m.*

It's a Wonderful Life: Michael Wakefield's gay talk/variety show. *Channel 34 at 1:30 a.m.*

fri. 23

Soap: See Friday listing. (30 min.) *Comedy Central at 11 a.m.* **CC**

VH1 to One: See Saturday listing. *VH1 at 7 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.*

Law and Order: Rumors of homophobia fly when a gay cop on the force is shot. (1 hr.) *A&E at 11 p.m.*

The Brini Maxwell Show: See Friday listing. *Channel 17 at 8:30 p.m.*

sat. 24

Chasing Amy: See Monday listing. (1 hr. 55 min.) *Continuous airings on pay-per-view (Channel 61) beginning at 7:30 a.m.*

Love! Valour! Compassion: See Monday listing. (1 hr. 55 min.) *Continuous airings on pay-per-view (Channel 61) beginning at 11 a.m.*

Absolutely Fabulous: Three more episodes. See Saturday listing. (40 min.) *Comedy Central at 4, 4:40, and 5:20 p.m.*

The Color Purple: In this 1995 film adaptation, Steven Spielberg obliterates Celie's (Whoopi Goldberg) lesbian relationship, which was integral to Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize winning novel. (3 hrs. 30 min.) *WWOR (UPN) at 7 p.m.*

The Real World: In the first episode, Syrus is accused of lying to his housemates about his rape charges. Sean says something that upsets Kameelah. In the second episode, Elka finally gives in and succumbs to alcohol. Genesis also meets a new friend on-line. (1 hr.) *MTV at 8 and 8:30 p.m.*

Xena: Warrior Princess: Gabrielle falls under spell thanks to Aphrodite. Gabrielle then finds that everything she commits to writing has an odd habit of coming true. To keep the episode light, Gabrielle's writing has some wacky twists to them. (1 hr.) *WPIX (WB) at 9 p.m.* **CC**

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Lesbian photographers Sherry Russell and Vilma Martin are currently exhibiting their prints at Subculture Gallery in a show entitled *Russell and Martin.*

appointments

a weekly guide to arts events in and around New York

theater

Inspired by the works of French writer Jean Genet, Steven patterson has put together a one-man show called ***Beauty.*** Loosely based on the time Genet's spent in prison, *Beauty* is about a prisoner who imagines "erotic and spiritual fulfillment for himself." Performances are Monday through Wednesday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 5 p.m. and midnight, and Sunday at 8 p.m. at Theatre Off Park, 224 Waverly Place (Christopher and 11th Sts.). Tickets are $25. For reservations, call (212) 627-2556.

Lorena Hickok and Eleanor Roosevelt: A Love Story is about the loving and passionate 30-year relationship between a journalist and a first lady. After Roosevelt died, more than 2,300 letters between the two were discovered. The play was written by Pat Bond and stars Marjorie Conn. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, and at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18, in the Alexander Room of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. Tickets are $10. For reservations, call (914) 331-8128.

Larry Kramer's play ***The Normal Heart*** is at Center Stage beginning Jan. 19. The somewhat autobiographical play, about a gay activist who grows angry because of people's indifference to the booming AIDS epidemic, was last seen in New York in 1985. *The Normal Heart* will run through Feb. 8. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. at Center Stage, 48 W. 21st St., 4th Floor (6th Ave.). Tickets are $12. For reservations, call (212) 642-6592.

Don't mess with Texas. **Paul J. Williams** hails from the great American South and has been gaining fans for his hilarious stand-up routines. He is also a founding member of the Less Miserable comedy group and has proven to be "one of Texas' most famous gay comedic talents," according to the *Dallas Observer.* He performs at 9 p.m. on two Tuesdays, Jan. 20 and 27, at Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St. Tickets are $12 with a two-drink minimum. For reservations, call (212) 757-0788.

The Best Sex of the XX Century Sale has reopened at Danny's Skylight Room. The cast chronicles the past 100 years of sexual history, taking some of America's favorite moments (Shirley Temple's "Good Ship Lollipop") and twisting them to their liking (or licking). Performances are 9:15 p.m. on Jan. 21, 24, 28, and 31 at Danny's Skylight Room, 346 W. 46th St. Tickets are $12. For reservations, call (212) 265-8130.

The John Houseman Studio Theatre presents an all-male version of ***Romeo and Juliet.*** This "testosterone-pumped" version tells the story of four boys who stave off boredom by re-creating the play. All is well and good until the boys gradually get deeper into the roles they are in. The boys' strict school environment is set against the repressive atmosphere of Verona. The opening performance is at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22. Regular performances are Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 3 and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 and 7 p.m. at the John Houseman Studio Theatre, 450 W. 42nd St. Tickets are $40, and $20 admits those with a student ID a half-hour before each performance. For reservations, call (212) 354-2220.

The telethon, a supremely tacky element of American culture, is spoofed by gay comics David Ilku and Ken Bullock in ***Second Annual Telethon.*** In this play, Carol Channing, Little Richard, Siegfried and Roy, Karl Lagerfeld, and supermodel Ragu Mountain Woman all help raise funds for "manic depressives and co-dependent people from dysfunctional families who have dyslexia and attention deficit disorder." The show runs through Jan. 24. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 10 p.m. at La MaMa E.T.C., 74A E. 4th St. Tickets are $12. For reservations, call (212) 475-7710.

Love can save the holidays, at least in Eric Stephen Booth's new comic play, ***Butch Queens.*** Booth focuses his latest effort on an unhappy female impersonator named Amos who finds the holiday season quite a drag. Cupid is apparently busy when Amos falls for a straight man, but the odd couple comes to understand the meaning of "brotherly love" by the time the curtain falls. *Butch Queens* runs through Jan. 25, with shows Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 7 and 9 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Producer's Club, 358 W. 44th St. (8th and 9th Aves.). Tickets are $18 in advance and $20 at the door. For more information, call (718) 378-0577.

James Edwin Parker, who wrote *2 Boys in a Bed on a Cold Winter's Night,* presents his new play...***and the pursuit of happiness,*** a semi-autobiographical look at one man's comic and tragic journey from the Midwest to Midtown. The play runs through January. Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at Theatre Off Park, 224 Waverly Place (Perry and W. 11th Sts.). Tickets are $15. For reservations, call (212) 627-2556.

Director Lewis Magruder's new production of Caryl Churchill's ***Cloud 9*** focuses on the struggles of gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals. Churchill juxtaposes British Colonial Africa and contemporary London and examines how gay roles have barely changed since the Victorian era. The show runs through Feb. 1. Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Raymond Greenwald Theatre, 307 W. 26th St. Tickets are $15. For more information, call (212) 517-1707.

Robert Coles' most recent work, ***Nude Boys Prancing About,*** is about a playwright who is constantly criticized for his use of "gratuitous male nudity." The two main characters in *Nude Boys Prancing About,* the playwright and one of his own creations, wrestle over the idea of portraying gay life "not simply as it is, but as it should be." Performances run through Feb. 8. Times are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets are $15, and the Sanford Meisner Theater is at 164 11th Ave. (22nd and 23rd St.). For tickets, call (212) 206-1764.

Directed by Randy Rollison, ***Tuesday*** is a new play about a classic case of amnesia. Audie McCall is a businessman who is stricken with Korsakoff's Syndrome, which causes him to forget everything he knows when he goes to sleep each night. Each morning, McCall has to painstakingly piece his life back together, only to find it crumble when he closes his eyes at night. Tuesday is scheduled to run through Feb. 8. Performances are Thursday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at HERE, 145 Ave. of the Americas (south of Spring). Tickets are $10 on Thursdays and Sundays and $12 for Friday and Saturdays. For more information, call (212) 647-0202.

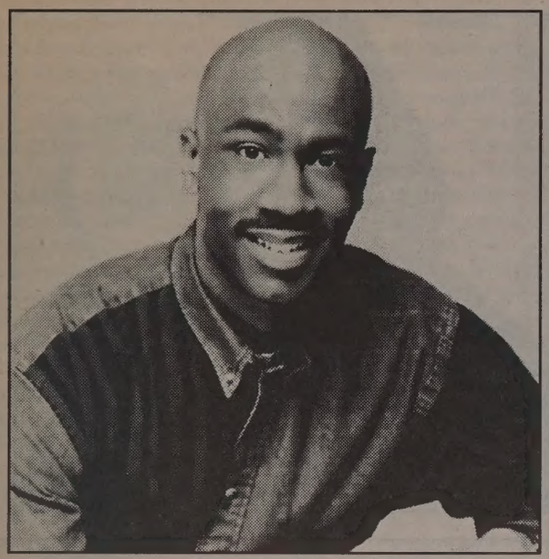
Sandra Bernhard's ***I'm Still Here...Damn It!*** is at the Westbeth Theatre Center. In her mouthy, sassy style, Bernhard sings, acts, and makes fun of '90s culture. The show has been extended through Feb. 14. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 9 p.m. Tickets are $30-$35 and may be charged by calling Ticketmaster at (212) 307-7171. They may also be purchased at the Westbeth box office, located at 151 Bank St.

Channel Crossings is the sequel to the successful *The Naked Enemy.* The real-life story deals with the romance between a male British secret service agent and a male German naval commander. The play doesn't solely focus on the love story — war, the nuclear age, and other historical themes are also explored. Through Feb. 21, performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at the Wings Theatre, 154 Christopher St. Tickets are $17.50. For reservations, call (212) 627-2961.

The Diary of Anne Frank, a new, more complete version of the play about a Jewish family during the Holocaust, stars Natalie Portman, Linda Lavin, George Hearn, and Harris Yulin. One of the key elements of this production is that it includes material from the diary that frankly deals with teenage Anne's sexuality. (Anne's father Otto Frank omitted these passages from the original book.) Anne Frank is now playing at the Music Box Theatre, 239 W. 45th St. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday at 2 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets range from $40 to $60. For tickets, call (212) 239-6200 or (212) 432-7250.

The Drama Department, featuring gay artistic director Douglas Carter Beane (*To Wong Foo*), is now performing ***Uncle Tom's Cabin, or Life Among the Lowly.*** This stage adaptation of the Harriet Beecher Stowe novel uses a multi-ethnic cast to incorporate accounts from freed slaves and historical figures. Performances are Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m. The Greenwich House Theatre is at 27 Barrow St. (7th Ave. South). Tickets are $12 and are available by calling (212) 541-8441.

Never the Sinner focuses on the sensational Leopold and Loeb case of 1924, involving two privileged



Smalltown boy

In *Goin' Home!,* Cam Montgomery Jr. plays a gay man who left his Midwestern town long ago to fully express his sexuality and escape his family's contempt. But after 15 years away, an elderly woman advises him to head home and end the feuding once and for all. In between the jokes and a glorious Nina Simone lip-synch number, Montgomery learns that "friends are the family we choose for ourselves." Montgomery's name might sound familiar; he's appeared on *Showtime at the Apollo* and *All My Children.* The only performance of *Goin' Home!* is at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 19, at the Sol Goldman 14th St. Y, 344 E. 14th St. (1st Ave.). Tickets are $5. For reservations, call (212) 780-0800x278.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

young gay men in Chicago who brutally murdered a 14-year-old. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 7 p.m. There are also matinees on Wednesday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are $32 and $35. *Never the Sinner* is at the American Jewish Theatre, 307 W. 26th St. For more information, call (212) 633-9797.

Wilson Cruz, best known for his work as the bisexual teen in the TV drama *My So-Called Life,* has joined the cast of ***Rent.*** He plays Angel, the drag artist and street musician. This rock opera about East Village inhabitants of every sexual orientation struggling against AIDS and homelessness was written by the late Jonathan Larson. The Nederlander Theatre is at 208 W. 41st St. Tickets range from $30 to $70. For information, call (212) 307-4100.

Bette Davis and Katharine Hepburn are portrayed in ***Bette and Kate Join the Line.*** The play, performed at the Duplex every Saturday at 10 p.m., speculates on what might happen if these gay icons had shed their superstar status and tried to be just plain folks. Tickets are $10. The Duplex is at 61 Christopher St. (7th Ave So.). For reservations, call (212) 255-5438.

From the creators of *Making Porn* comes ***10 Naked Men,*** another excuse for guys to take their clothes off. Show times are Tuesday through Thursday at 8 p.m., and Friday and Saturday at 7 and 10 p.m. The play is now running at the Actor's Playhouse, 100 7th Ave South. Tickets are $35. For more information, call (212) 239-6200.

The Last Session, presented at the 47th St. Theater, is a musical about a songwriter with AIDS whose final recording session literally saves his life. With music and lyrics by Steve Schalchlin, this musical is garnering raves for its great vocals. Tickets are $30 and the theater is at 304 W. 47th St. For show times and tickets, call (212) 239-6200.

Lesbian Paula Vogel hits a winner with ***How I Learned to Drive,*** a drama starring Molly Ringwald and Cotter Smith, and directed by Mark Brokaw. Vogel shows a how a young woman comes of age in a broken family during the '60s and '70s. Tickets range from $25 to $45. The Century Theatre is at 111 E. 15th St. For show times and tickets, call (212) 239-6200.

Fans of gay playwright Douglas Carter Beane can see his latest work, ***As Bees in Honey Drown,*** at the Lucille Lortel Theater. This fast-paced, witty production, which features J. Smith Cameron as the slick seducer of a young gay novelist played by Bo Foxworth, is playing Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 6 and 9 p.m., and Sunday at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets are $40 and $45. Lucille Lortel is at 121 Christopher St. For information, call (212) 239-6200.

Howard Crabtree's last (and funniest) musical is now in its second year at the Douglas Fairbanks Theatre. The award-winning ***When Pigs Fly*** is a costumed romp of outlandish proportions. The Douglas Fairbanks Theatre is at 432 W. 42nd St. (9th Ave.). Tickets are $45. For more information, call (212) 239-6200.

galleries and exhibits

The Pat Hearn Gallery features George Condo and William Burroughs in its show ***The Horse and the Cardinal.*** Consisting of 11 paintings, three drawings, and one sculpture, the exhibition is a collaborative effort between painter and poet. The two artists create portraits of Francis Bacon and also of themselves. The exhibition runs through Jan. 17. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pat Hearn Gallery is at 530 W. 22nd St. For more information, call (212) 727-7366.

Lesbian artist **Carrie Yamaoka,** who blends a variety of media for contemporary paintings, is the featured artist at Debs and Co. The exhibit runs through Jan. 17, daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The gallery is at 529 W. 20th St., 9th Floor. For more information, call (212) 647-7080.

The Brooklyn Museum of Art presents ***Graphic Alert: AIDS Awareness Posters from the Collection of Dr. Edward C. Atwater.*** The exhibit features 63 AIDS posters from around the world. The opening is at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18. A reception will follow at 4 p.m. Hours are Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Brooklyn Museum is at 200 Eastern Parkway in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn. For more information, call (718) 638-5000.

Henry Baker's ***Unwritten Fairy Tales*** is a new solo show that highlights the artist's eye for detail and symmetry. The show contains vivid pop icons that are arranged in collages using mixed media. The exhibit runs through Jan. 24. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week. 70th Art Gallery is at 130a E. 70th St. at Lexington Ave. For more information, call (212) 472-2234.

Jay Gorney Modern Art highlights two new artists, **Kurt Kauper** and lesbian **Judie Bamber.** Kauper creates and then paints fictional opera divas, and Bamber's watercolors of her father are a mix of painting and photography. The exhibit runs through January. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jay Gorney is at 100 Greene St. For more information, call (212) 966-4480.

Visual AIDS has extended its **Day Without Art** exhibition through Feb. 1. Its shows can be seen at more than 50 cultural institutions in New York and New Jersey. The group fosters awareness of AIDS through programs and publications. For information, call (212) 627-9855.

The Leslie-Lohman Gay Art Foundation presents **Founders Choice III,** featuring artists such as Ajamu, Noel, Duane Bousfield, and Robert Gable. The works deal with such themes as male sexuality and race, and include abstract and figurative portraits. The exhibit runs through Feb. 21. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 1 to 6 p.m. Leslie-Lohman is at 127 Prince St., in the basement. For more information, call (212) 673-7007, or visit: www.planet.net/corp/Leslie_Lohman

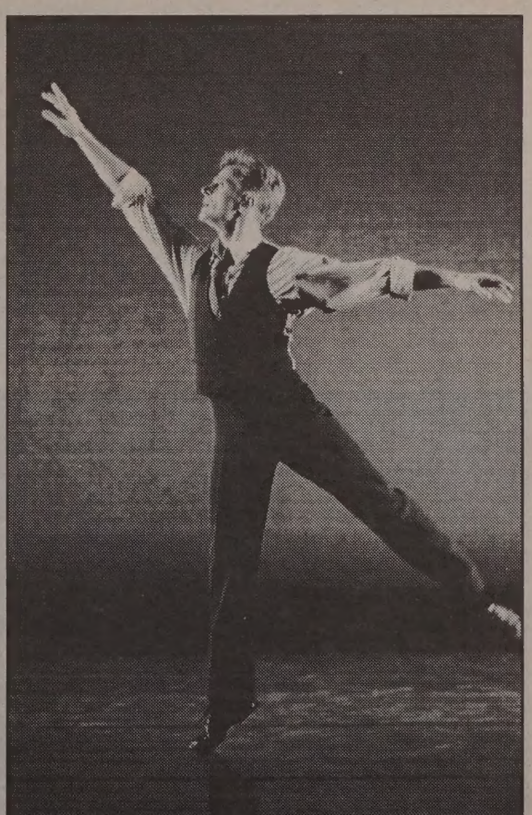
The Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum presents the ***Gianni Versace Exhibition.*** The show, which occupies five galleries, celebrates Versace's contributions to the world of high fashion. One highlight is his 1992 "bondage" collection, which launched the S/M craze in the fashion world. The exhibition runs through March 22. Exhibit hours are Tuesday through Sunday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., with additional evening hours on Friday and Saturday until 8:45 p.m. The museum is at 1000 5th Ave. (82nd St.). For more information, call (212) 535-7710.

P.S. 1 exhibits Jack Smith's photography series ***Flaming Creatures*** through June. The exhibition deals with drag queens, sex, and lesbians. P.S. 1 is at 22-25 Jackson Ave. in Long Island City, Queens. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. For more information, call (718) 784-2084.

Lesbian photographers Sherry Russell and Vilma Martin are currently exhibiting their prints at Subculture Gallery in a show entitled ***Russell and Martin.*** Many of the prints have "womanly" themes. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 6:30 p.m. at Subculture Gallery, 376 Broome St. (Mott and Mulberry). For more information, call (212) 965-9613.

Male, an exhibition contains works from over 75 artists, ranging from 1890 to 1997, is currently on display at the Wessel and O'Connor Gallery. Photographs, paintings, drawings, and prints are some of the media used to convey masculinity. Artists include Keith Haring, David Hockney, Robert Mapplethorpe, and David Wojnarowicz. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Wessel and O'Connor Gallery is at 242 W. 26th St. For more information, call (212) 242-8811.

SoHo Triad Fine Arts presents an exhibition entitled ***With and Without Gravity,*** featuring pho-



Mikhail Baryshnikov will be dancing solo at City Center from Jan. 21 to 25. His performance will include works by gay choreographers.

tographs that recently appeared in Blind Spot magazine. Included are rooftop pictures by rocker Lou Reed. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., every day. The gallery is at 107 Grand St. For more information, call (212) 965-9500.

Palestinian artist **Mona Hatoum** is featured at the New Museum of Contemporary Art. Primarily known as an installation and video artist, Hatoum deals with gender and racial issues. Hours are Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday from 12 noon to 6 p.m., and Thursday and Saturday from 12 noon to 8 p.m. Admission is $5, or $3 for students and seniors. Admission is free on Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. The museum is at 583 Broadway (Houston and Prince). For more information, call (212) 219-1222.

Great Modern Pictures presents photographs of **Andy Warhol, Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg, David** a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. The gallery is at 17 W. 24th St. (Broadway and 6th Ave.). For information, call (212) 242-2581.

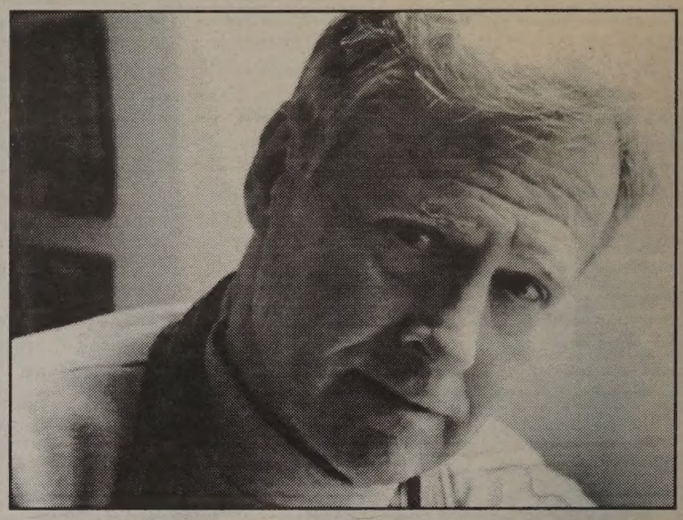
The Whitney Museum of American Art presents ***The Warhol Look/Glamour Style Fashion.*** Items include paintings, clothes, and other materials retrieved from the Warhol Museum. The show runs through Jan. 18. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The Whitney is located at 945 Madison Ave. (75th St.). For more information, call (212) 327-2801.

Andy Warhol: Unique Screenprints 1967-1987 showcases many famous, rare, and obscure prints from the artist. The exhibition will include advertising prints and black/white abstract prints. Many of the prints were found after Warhol's death in 1987. The exhibition is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Feldman Gallery, 31 Mercer St. For more information, cal (212) 226-3232.

Woodcuts, etchings, lithographs, and screenprints are featured in a MoMa exhibition entitled ***From Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec to Andy Warhol: Exploring Techniques.*** Over 50 artists are featured in the show, at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd St. (5th and 6th Aves.). Hours are Saturday through Tuesday, and Thursday, from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (212) 708-9480.

Andy Warhol is in yet another exhibit this winter. D'Amelio Terras Gallery is currently presenting Warhol's sculpture ***Silver Clouds,*** which hasn't been shown since 1966. The exhibit features dozens of inflated Mylar balloons that float across the gallery spaceIn another sculpture, Yayoi Kusama's ***A Snake*** is nearly 22 feet in length and contains references to male genitalia throughout. The exhibition runs through Jan. 31. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. D'Amelio Terras is at 525 W. 22nd St. (10th and 11th Aves.). For more information, call (212) 352-9460.

Musical maze



Ned Rorem, America's preeminent composer of the art song, has been setting the poetry of Walt Whitman, Paul Goodman, and W.H. Auden to music for years. With his 36-song cycle "Evidence of Things Not Seen," the 75-year old composer brings together in a musical maze the poems and prose of his old standbys, as well as Oscar Wilde, Langston Hughes, Julian Green, Mark Doty, and Paul Monette.

This monumental yet intimate work is Rorem's meditation on the highs and lows of love — a sumptuous summation of a career of the heart. As part of the New York Festival of Song, Rorem's cycle will have its world premiere at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22, at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, in a single performance. It's sold out, but fans will want to fight for a ticket.

—ROBERT HILFERTY

dance

In his first solo engagement in the U.S., **Mikhail Baryshnikov** will perform an evening of solo dances by Jose Limon, Mark Morris, Kraig Patterson, and Christopher Janney/Sara Rudner. The dances — mostly New York premieres — will be accompanied by live music by the White Oak Chamber Ensemble. Baryshnikov's performances run from Jan. 21 to 25, beginning Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 3 p.m., at City Center, 131 W. 55th St. Tickets range from $25 to $55, and can be purchased by calling (212) 581-1212.

The Joyce is billing its upcoming season as something "altogether different," featuring pieces by modern dance choreographers with different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. First, **Mark Dendy** premieres his new work Dream Analysis, which features Dendy himself, plus Varla Jean Merman as a psychiatrist. The final performance is at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16. The Joyce is at 175 8th Ave. (19th St.). Tickets are $18 and are available by calling (212) 242-0800.

Ben Munisteri's new work, *Late-Night Sugar Flight,* sounds like something out of *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory.* Munisteri emcees the performance of his work, while New York's underground DJs provide grooves for the dancers to interpret. The show runs through Jan. 23 at 11 p.m. Tickets are $12. P.S. 122 is at 150 First Ave. (9th St.). For reservations, call (212) 477-5288. Visit: www.ps122.org.

Like an artistic superstore with everything under one roof, **CultureMart** is an annual festival highlighting young artists who combine dance, music, vocals, and texts to create "hybrid performances." This year's performers blend klezmer music and poetry, modern dance and theater, multi-media visuals, and singing in a dozen new performances through Jan. 24. All performances are at HERE, 145 Ave. of the Americas (Spring and Broom Sts.). For tickets or a complete listing of CultureMart performances, call (212) 647-0202.

Channel Crossings **at the Wings Theatre deals with the romance between a male British secret service agent and a male German naval commander.**

film

Gonin is a new Japanese action film from director Takeshi Ishii. It focuses on an unlikely group of eccentrics who unite and plot an attack on the Ogoshi crime mob. Included in the group is Mitusya, a man who wears make-up and dresses in a fey manner. Gonin opens on Friday, Jan. 16 at Cinema Village, 22 E. 12th St. (5th Ave.). For more information, call (212) 924-3363.

French director Gael Morel's new film ***Full Speed (A Toute Vitesse)*** deals with the rocky relationships between four friends. In a tangle of affairs, three male characters bond and become good friends. The film also examines racial issues. Full Speed will open on Jan. 16 at Quad Cinema, 34 W. 13th St. (5th and 6th Aves.). For more information, call (212) 255-8800.

A Different Light will screen the 1975 film version of Jacqueline Susann's ***Once Is Not Enough,*** starring Alexis Smith as a closet lesbian. Kirk Douglas, Deborah Raffin, and George Hamilton co-star. The movie begins at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18. A Different Light is at 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

New York is not for neurotics. Jack Nicholson plays a writer who has a hard time touching or stepping on things (think *What About Bob?*) in ***As Good as It Gets.*** Nicholson's neighbor is a gay artist (played by Greg Kinnear), and Helen Hunt plays a waitress who seems to take an interest in Nicholson. Nicholson is the type of neighbor that even Mr. Rogers wouldn't want to have: Kinnear is subjected to homophobic remarks and his dog is tossed down a garbage chute. But by the end of the movie, mean-spiritedness gives way to friendship and romance. This comedy also stars Cuba Gooding Jr. Now playing at area theaters.

In ***Ma Vie en Rose (My Life in Pink),*** a young French boy decides that he is a girl. Our hero, Ludovic, loves the attention from his classmates — even though it leads to his family having to move out of town. As Ludovic gets older, relationships within his family become rocky. Now playing at the Quad Cinema, 34 W. 13th St. (5th and 6th Aves.). Call (212) 255-8800. The film is also scheduled to play at Lincoln Plaza Cinemas, 30 Lincoln Plaza (Broadway and 62nd St.). Call (212) 757-2280.

The Full Monty is a look at out of work steelworkers who form a Chippendales-type strip act. What follows are hilarious scenes of men in various states of undress. Two of the male dancers also share an intimate moment in this light-hearted comedy. Now playing at area theaters.

L.A. Confidential, starring Kevin Spacey and Danny DeVito, concerns a plot to involve a district attorney and a scandal with a gay actor. The New York Film Critics Circle recently named this film Best Picture of 1997. Guy Pearce (*The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*) also stars. Now playing at area theaters.

music

A Different Light will hold a CD release party for musician **Deian McBryde**. The launch party will highlight

McBryde's first release, *Mollyboy*. The recording features a collection of dance, pop, R&B, and jazz. The party is from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16. A Different Light is at 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Sandy Rapp, a woman primarily known for her political prowess, has proved that she can sing, too. The longtime activist recently performed at the National Women's Music Festival and at the New York State National Organization for Women convention. She will perform at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, at the People's Voice Café. A women's percussion group, Womba, will also perform. The People's Voice Café is at 133 W. 4th St. (6th Ave. and Washington Square Park). Tickets are $10, or $5 for seniors and people with low incomes. For more information, call (212) 787-3903.

FraggleRock is back. This monthly rock party features some of the best in local and national music. The next show, on Jan. 24, includes performances by Her Vanished Grace at 10 p.m., Battershell at 11 p.m., and Sarah Greenwood at midnight. At 1 a.m., the FraggleRock house band will perform a tribute to the adorable Jackson 5. The house band includes Ann Hairston of Luscious Jackson, Allison from Betty, Gina of the Lunachicks, and a host of other fabulous women. Drag king Lizerace will spin between sets. Doors open at 9 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24, at Acme Underground, 9 Great Jones St. (Broadway and Lafayette). For more information, call (212) 539-3909.

Singer **Kevin Weldon** can currently be seen in his new show, *The Power of the Four Letter Word*. Weldon performs songs from Janis Ian and Chicago, among others. He has also been a regular on the daytime drama *Another World* for the past three years. Through Feb. 3, performances are Tuesday at 9 p.m. at Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St. Tickets are $12 with a two-drink minimum. For reservations, call (212) 757-0788.

Fans who missed gay vocalist **Ron Seykell's** sold-out solo engagement last fall can now catch him at Eighty-Eights. Seykell has been a performer in *Cats, Les Miserables,* and *Jesus Christ Superstar,* as well as many shows at the Duplex, Limelight, and Area. *Mr. Ron Seykell's Wild Ride* will feature contemporary and classic R&B, comedy, and original music. Through Feb. 27, shows are on Friday at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $17.50 with a two-drink minimum. Eighty-Eights is at 228 W. 10th St. (Bleecker and Hudson Sts.). For reservations, call (212) 924-0088.

Pianist **Peter Mintun** always manages to bring a little nostalgia to New York. He performs rare works from artists such as Cole Porter and Jerome Kern, adding to the atmosphere by wearing 1930s clothing (and a mustache). Michael Feinstein said, "When I grow up, I want to be Peter Mintun." The San Francisco pianist performs Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at Bemelmans Bar at the Carlyle, Madison Ave. (76th and 77th St.). There is a $10 music charge. For more information, call (212) 744-1600.

Regalia, a cabaret featuring the talents of Jilline Ringle, Richard Paul, Chuck Sweeney, and Michael Ogborn is presented every Friday at the Duplex. This revue of music, comedy, and camp includes songs such as "When Did You Get to Be So Butch, Mary" and "How to Be a Drag Queen for Profit and Fun." Tickets are $10, and there is a two-drink minimum. The Duplex is located at 61 Christopher St. The performances begin at 10 p.m. every Friday in December. For reservations or more information, call (212) 255-5438.

readings

The Social Activities for Lesbians book group will discuss Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* at a Different Light from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18. For more information about SAL, call (212) 330-6582. A Different Light is at 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Carren Stock will read from her new book *Married Women Who Love Women.* Stock — an educator, writer, and mother — interviewed 100 women across the nation for this non-fiction book. The reading is at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 19, at A Different Light Bookstore, 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Naomi Holoch, award-winning editor of the popular *Women on Women* series, will read from and sign her new novel *Offseason.* The reading is at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at A Different Light, 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Veronica Vera will read and sign copies of her recent book *Miss Vera's Finishing School For Boys Who Want To Be Girls.* Miss Vera runs her own finishing school in Chelsea where men are taught all about etiquette, make-up, and shopping — for a fee, of course. Fans may get some free tips at this reading from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at Barnes and Noble Chelsea, 675 Avenue of the Americas (22nd St.). For more information, call (212) 727-1227.

"Gender rebel" **Kate Bornstein** will read from her hilarious and informative new book *My Gender Workbook: How to Become a Real Man, a Real Woman, the Real You, or Something Else Entirely.* The reading will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at A Different Light Bookstore, 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

Those who have lost a partner may want to attend a reading of *Gay Widowers: Life After the Death of a Partner.* Writers **Jon Clayborne, Stephen Greco,** and **Ron Najman** will read along with editor **Michael Shernoff.** The reading will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22, at A Different Light Bookstore, 151 W. 19th St. For more information, call (212) 989-4850.

As part of the In Our Own Write series, **Leslea Newman,** author of *Heather Has Two Mommies (a children's story)* and *Still Life with Buddy* (a poetic novel), will read at 7:30 on Thursday, Jan. 22, at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. Admission is $3. For more information, call (212) 620-7310.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

Loie Fuller, a dancer known more for the way she swirled her capes and draperies than for her actual artistry, became a virtual paradigm of female grace and the spirit of the art nouveau movement. She was born on Jan. 16, 1862.

out and about

January 16 to January 25

All events are held at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, located at 208 W. 13th St., unless otherwise noted. For information about Center events, call (212) 620-7310.

FRIDAY 16

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH, Lesbian Voices (feminist minyan). A time to explore shechinah, women in Judaism. All are welcome. 6:30 p.m. Regular Shabbat services, 8:30 p.m. Kiddush follows. CBST, 57 Bethune St. Call (212) 929-9498.

GAY ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER MEN OF NY, 8-10 p.m. Call (212) 802-RICE.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, discussion on what's happening with the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. 8 p.m. Call (212) 429-0773.

GAY MEN'S OPERA CLUB, a forum to listen to and discuss works. 8-10 p.m. Call (212) 691-5993.

POLISH LESBIANS AND GAYS TOGETHER: RAZEM, general meeting. 8-10:45 p.m. Call (212) 604-4928.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AL-ANON. Call for events, (212) 620-7310.

BODY POSITIVE NY, for gay men 18-30 who are HIV+. 6:30-8 p.m.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, gay men's issues. 8:30 p.m.

GAY AND LESBIAN ADVOCATES FOR CHANGE, grassroots collective for l/g in NY. 6-8:30 p.m. 237 W. 18th St. (7th and 8th Aves.), #1FE. Call (212) 206-7086. Email: queerlib@lix.netcom.com.

GAY AND LESBIAN CATHOLIC MINISTRY, prayer service and reception. 7 p.m. St. Paul the Apostle, 415 W. 59th St. (Columbus). Call (212) 265-3495x308.

INCEST & SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS–GAY MEN, regular mtg. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 6 p.m.

NY RAMBLERS, indoor practice. Call to confirm, (212) 873-4069.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, regular mtg. 8 p.m.

SAGE, women's 50+ rap group. 7:30 p.m. Call (212) 741-2247.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for events, (212) 620-7310.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR SINGLE LESBIANS, 6:30-8 p.m.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST ANONYMOUS, WOMEN'S BUSINESS mtg. 5:30-6 p.m.

USS-NORTHSTAR NCC-10462, general membership mtg. for Star Trek enthusiasts. 8-10:45 p.m. Call (212) 620-7310x325.

SATURDAY 17

BIG APPLE RANCH, g/l weekly country/western dance. Lessons, 8-9 p.m. Open dancing, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Admission $10. Dance Manhattan, 39 W. 19th St. (5th and 6th Aves.), 5th floor. Call (212) 358-5752.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH, traditional morning minyan. A full Torah reading and musaf. Kiddush follows. All are welcome. 10 a.m. CBST, 57 Bethune St. Call (212) 929-9498.

CULTURE VULTURES ANONYMOUS, for those interested in music, readings, and museums. 1-3 p.m. Call (201) 798-9566.

DIGNITY/BROOKLYN, 21st anniversary celebra-

tion and potluck dinner. 6:45 p.m. The Church of St. Ann and the Holy Trinity (Guild room), 122 Pierrepont St. (Montague) in Brooklyn Heights. Call (212) 627-6488x4.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, discussion on relationships and how they work. 4:30 p.m. 133 W. 4th St. (6th Ave. and Washington Sq. Park). Call (212) 420-0773.

NATIONAL AIDS TREATMENT ADVOCACY PROJECT, seminar on current issues in HIV treatment. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. NYU Medical Center, Farkas Auditorium, 550 E. 1st Ave. (31st St.). Registration is required. Call (212) 219-0106 or (888)-26-NATAP.

OTHER COUNTRIES: BLACK GAY EXPRESSIONS, writing workshop. 5-8 p.m. Call (212) 627-2629.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, struggle for intimacy. 10 a.m.

AL-ANON, GLAD g/l discussion. 8 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Call for events, (212) 647-1680.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS, open mtg. 6 p.m.

CHRISTIAN LESBIANS OUT TOGETHER (CLOUT), prayer and worship. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (201) 694-0452.

FRONT RUNNERS NY, 9:45 a.m. Call to confirm, (212) 724-9700.

KNIGHTS WRESTLING CLUB, women's wrestling. 12-2 p.m. Call (718) 639-5141.

LIFE DRAWING SEMINAR, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (201) 792-9619.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Open gay mtg., 5 p.m. Sat. night fellowship, 10 p.m.

PARK AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Community Lunch Program. Help feed the hungry and homeless. 1-4 p.m. PACC, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). Call (212) 288-3246x30.

SCA-ANON, 6 p.m.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for events, (212) 439-1123.

TRANSGENDER HEALTH EDUCATION CLINIC. Primary care, by appt., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Peer counseling, walk-in, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

ZAPPALORTI SOCIETY, psychiatric survivors for support and self-help. 2-4 p.m. Call (718) 442-1838.

SUNDAY

18 **FAST AND FABULOUS CYCLING TEAM,** Bob Nelson and Dave Millard travel to Nyack. Call (212) 567-7160 for confirmation and meeting location.

GRACE OASIS MINISTRIES, gay Pentecostal worship services, 6-9 p.m. Coffee follows, 9-10 p.m. Call (718) 788-5693.

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR GAY MEN, 8:45-10:15 p.m. Call (212) 307-5583.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH/NY. Sunday services, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Spanish service, 12:30 p.m. 446 W. 36th St. (9th and 10th Aves.). Call (212) 629-7440.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AL-ANON, 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Call for events, (212) 647-1680.

BI-PERSPECTIVES, peer support, discussion group. 3-4:30 p.m. Call (212) 459-4784.

CH'I' KUNG, gentle exercise. 6-7 p.m. $2. Call (201) 746-7686.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS. Meditation, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Topic, 12:30 p.m.

DEBTORS ANONYMOUS, 12:15 p.m.

IDENTITY HOUSE SUNDAY NIGHT MEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, 7-9 p.m. Call (212) 243-8181.

INTERFAITH HEALING WORKSHOP, healing through meditation, interaction, and the laying of hands. 1-3 p.m. Call (212) 678-4601.

KNIGHTS WRESTLING GROUP, men's wrestling. 2:30-5 p.m. Call (718) 639-5141.

LAS BUENAS AMIGAS, for Latina lesbians in NY. All are welcome. 2-4 p.m. Call (917) 283-9942.

METRO GAY WRESTLING ALLIANCE, 2-5 p.m. Call (212) 563-7066.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 2:15 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Lesbian mtg., 12:30 p.m. Gay men, 7 p.m.

SCA–EN ESPANOL, COMPULSIVOS SEXAULES ANONIMOS, 7 p.m. Call (212) 388-9124.

MONDAY

19 **GAY AND LESBIAN SIERRANS,** "Outings" committee meeting. Bring an idea for an outdoor adventure. 7 p.m. Call (718) 793-3095 for location.

HEPATITIS C SUPPORT GROUP, all are welcome. 7-9 p.m. Democratic Club, 2125 Williamsbridge Rd., 2nd Fl., Bronx. Call (718) 863-9034.

RADICAL WOMEN, ongoing Monday study group on "When Biology Became Destiny," a collection of essays on women in Weimar and Nazi Germany. Snacks at 6:45 p.m. (donation $3). Study group, 7-8:30 p.m. 32 Union Square East, # 907. Call (212) 677-7002.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ACT-UP, general mtg. 7:30 p.m. Call (212) 642-5499.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, gay/lesbian/bisexual mtg. 6 p.m.

BODY POSITIVE, support group for HIV+ gay men. 1:30-3 p.m. Call (800) 566-6599.

COALITION FOR HEALTH RE-EDUCATION/COHR, 8-11 p.m.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, 9 p.m.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT. General medical clinic, 7-9 p.m. Appt., (212) 675-3559. Walk-in STD clinic, 7-8:30 p.m. Lesbian Health Care Program, 7-9 p.m. HIV primary care clinic, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

DEBTORS ANONYMOUS, lesbian and gay step mtg. 7:30 p.m.

HEALTH EDUCATION AIDS LIAISON, a group for those seeking information on alternative treatment to AIDS. Discussion group, 8 p.m. Call (212) 873-0780.

INTERFAITH BIBLE STUDY. All religious faiths, ethnic and social identities welcome to study the Bible. 8 p.m. Call (718) 284-0179.

LESBIAN AND GAY IMMIGRATION RIGHTS TASK FORCE, support and advocacy group to help fight discrimination. 6:30-8 p.m. Call (212) 802-7264.

NETWORK FOR THE REALIZATION OF GOODNESS. All women welcome at this spirituality circle. 8 p.m. Call (212) 348-5738.

SAGE, drop-in. 1:30-4:30 p.m. Call (212) 741-2247.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

TUESDAY

20 **CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH,** "Exploration in Modern Jewish Thought" classes. 7:30 p.m. CBST, 57 Bethune St. Call (212) 929-9498.

ITALIAN LESSONS, learn Italian language and culture. $5. Call (201) 418-7972.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA BUYER'S CLUB, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Call (212) 265-9709.

TWENTY-SOMETHING BIBLE STUDY, for those who don't wish to abandon their religion or their sexuality. Not a therapy group. 8 a.m. Call (917) 935-8994 for location.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AIDS RIDE, spinning classes. 9-9:45 p.m. $5. Printing House Fitness and Racquet Club, 421 Hudson St. (Leroy St.). Call (212) 242-RIDE.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Women Now mtg., 6-7:15 p.m. Westwingers, 8 p.m. AA Living Today open discussion, 8:15 p.m. Sober Agnostics, 8:15 p.m.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, women's mtg. 9:15 p.m.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT. General medical clinic, 7-9 p.m. Call for an appt., (212) 675-3559. Walk-in STD clinic, 7-8:30 p.m. HIV primary care clinic, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

HEALING FOODS, 8 p.m. Call for location, (212) 505-3799.

JOVIAN GENTLEMEN, group for mature men. 8-10 p.m. Call (212) 592-3831.

LESBIAN AND GAY LAW ASSOCIATION, legal walk-in clinic. Registration, 6-6:30 p.m. Clinic, 6:30-8 p.m. Call (212) 353-9118.

MALE SURVIVORS OF INCEST, RAPE, AND SEXUAL ABUSE, 8:30-10 p.m. Call (212) 477-9686.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 7:30 p.m.

SAGE. Drop-in, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Alzheimer caregiver support group, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (212) 741-2247.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR SINGLE LESBIANS, 6:30-8 p.m.

TREATMENT AND DATA COMMITTEE OF NY, 8-10 p.m. Call (212) 787-2744.

URANTIA BOOK, study group for spiritual guidance. All are welcome. 8-10 p.m. Call for location, (212) 289-1741.

WEDNESDAY

21 **AIDS RIDE.** Public speaking team recruitment night, 7 p.m., 269 W. 16th St. Rider orientation, 7:30 p.m., Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. Call (212) 242-RIDE.

BUTCH/FEMME SOCIETY, open discussion meeting. 6:30 p.m. Call (212) 388-2736.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH, chorus rehearsal. 7-9 p.m. 57 Bethune St. Call (212) 929-9498.

INTEGRITY/NY, a group for gay Episcopalians. 6:30 p.m. Church of the Holy Apostles, 299 9th Ave. (28th St.). Call (212) 691-7181.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATION NETWORK, "How to Make the Internet Work for Your Business." A panel of experts will teach participants the ins and outs of the business. $8 for non-members, $6 for members. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:45 p.m. Call (212) 427-0308.

RADICAL WOMEN, "25 Years of Legal Abortion: The Fight That Won It and the Fight to Save It." The group will commemorate the Roe v. Wade decision and discuss current topics. Dinner is at 7 p.m. and costs $6. Discussion and meeting, 7:30 p.m. 32 Union Square E., #907. Call (212) 677-7002.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, 12-step mtg. 6 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Women together beginners mtg., 6:15 p.m. Lesbiana y Gay Grupo Identitad, 8 p.m.

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP, all women are welcome. 6:30-8 p.m.

FRENCH SOCIAL CLUB, French language and culture group. 6-8 p.m. Call (718) 353-3941.

HEALTH EDUCATION AIDS LIAISON, regular meeting. 8 p.m. Call (212) 873-0780.

MEDITATION FOR GAYS, LESBIAN, AND BISEXUALS, 8-9 p.m. Call (212) 242-7980.

METRO-GAY WRESTLING ALLIANCE, 8-10:45 p.m. Call (212) 563-7066.

SAGE. Drop-in, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Men's 50+ rap group, 5:30 p.m. Call (212) 741-2247.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

VILLAGE PLAYWRIGHTS, 6-8 p.m. Call (718) 552-0591.

WOMEN'S PLAYWRIGHT COLLECTIVE, 6-8 p.m. Call (718) 885-1119.

THURSDAY

22 **NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATION NETWORK.** The group will see *The Last Yankee* and *I Can't Remember Anything*, by Arthur Miller. All seats are $25. Call (212) 427-0308 for more information.

PARK AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Christian education dinner, 6:30 p.m. PACC, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). Call (212) 288-3246.

PROMOTE THE VOTE, "City Council Members Forum." Margarita Lopez, Phil Reed, and Tom Duane talk about what it's like to be an openly gay politician. 7-9 p.m.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, topic mtg. 6 p.m.

ADULT MEN OF ALL AGES TOGETHER, 8-10 p.m. Call (212) 873-0999.

AL-ANON, beginners and gay men combined. 6-8 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. "Agnostics at Noon," a women's discussion group. 6 p.m.

BI/GAY FATHER'S FORUM, support and social group. Call (212) 213-8102 before attending.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP, 8-9 p.m. Call (212) 532-8379.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT. General medical clinic, by appt., 7-9 p.m. Lesbian health program, 7-9 p.m. HIV/AIDS assessment and early prevention program, 7-9 p.m. Call (212) 675-3559.

GAY AND LESBIAN GREEK ASSOC., 8 p.m. Call (212) 539-6675.

LAVENDER LAMPS: NATIONAL LESBIAN AND GAY NURSES ASSOCIATION, 8 p.m. Call (718) 478-7297.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 5:45 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, gay men's mtg. 8 p.m.

PSYCHIC CHANNEL AND HEALER SUPPORT CIRCLE, open to all levels/traditions. 6:30-8 p.m. Donation, $10. Call (212) 505-0426 for new location and to make reservations.

SAGE. Drop-in, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Men's 40+ rap group, 7 p.m. Call (212) 741-2247.

SEX PANIC, help defend sexual freedom. 8 p.m. Call (212) 252-4925.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

FRIDAY

23 **CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH,** regular Shabbat services. 8:30 p.m. Kiddush follows the service. CBST, 57 Bethune St. Call (212) 929-9498.

GAY FATHERS GROUP, non-judgmental supportive environment for gay and bisexual fathers/partners. Newcomers welcome. Potluck dinner follows. 7-9:45 p.m. Call (212) 721-4216.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, "Homophobia and Christianity Discussion." Rev. James Forbes will discuss the Bible's relationship to sexuality. 8 p.m. Call (212) 420-0773.

GENDER IDENTITY PROJECT. "They Lived It Out," event commemorating the lives of transgendered people, with speakers Leslie Feinberg, Riki Anne Wilchins, Hedda Lettuce, and many others. 7-11 p.m. Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. Call (212) 620-7310.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AL-ANON. Gay men beginners, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Gay men regulars, 8:30 p.m.

CO-DEPENDENTS Anonymous, gay men's issues mtg. 8:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE FOR CATHOLIC LESBIANS, 6-8 p.m. Call (212) 674-8046.

GENTLE MEN, meet men in an intimate, structured atmosphere. 8 p.m. Call (212) 501-2034.

INCEST AND SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVORS ANONYMOUS, gay men's regular mtg. 6:15-7:45 p.m.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 6 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, GAY DIGNITY REGULAR MTG., 8 p.m.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR SINGLE LESBIANS, 6:30-8 p.m.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST ANONYMOUS, women's beginners, 6-8 p.m.

TIMES SQUARES, country and western dancing, 7:30 p.m. Call if a non-member, (718) 651-7992.

URSUS MAJOR, a group for big men and their admirers, 8-10:45 p.m. Call (201) 672-3044.

SATURDAY

24 **BIG APPLE RANCH,** country and western dancing, 8 p.m.-1 a.m. $10. Dance Manhattan, 39 W. 19th St., 5th Fl. Call (212) 358-5752.

CENTER DANCE, "The Party Continues" with DJ Keana. Admission is $8 or $6 for center members, seniors, and students. Call (212) 620-7310.

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH, feminist minyan. Service and discussion with a new siddur. Participants are asked to bring The Book of Blessings. 10 a.m. CBST, 57 Bethune St. Call (212) 929-9498.

GAY AND LESBIAN SIERRANS, simulated indoor rock climbing. Admission is $9 and includes two climbs and gear. Dinner follows. Call (718) 793-3095 for time and location.

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS, "Dungeon Demo." GMSMA will demonstrate S/M techniques. Admission is $20 for non-members and $15 for GMSMA members. 7-10 p.m. ManHole, corner of 9th Ave. and 14th St. Call (212) 727-9878.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, HIV-positive/negative forum. For those in relationships where one partner is HIV-positive. 4:30 p.m. 133 W. 4th St. (6th Ave. and Washington Sq. Park). Call (212) 420-0773.

PARK AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Community Lunch Program. 2:30 p.m. PACC, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). Call (212) 288-3246.

PERSONAL CONNECTIONS, meet other singles interested in a long term relationship 8 p.m. $5.

WEEKLY EVENTS

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS, struggle for intimacy mtg. 10 a.m.

AL-ANON, GLAD gay and lesbian discussion. 8 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 647-1680.

BISEXUAL GAY LESBIAN TRANSGENDER YOUTH OF NY, discussion/support group. Leadership/planning mtg., 1:30-3 p.m. Discussion group, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Call (212) 620-7310.

BI-SOCIAL, 8-10 p.m. Call (718) 859-8445.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS, gay and lesbian open mtg. 6 p.m.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT, transgender health education clinic. Primary care and peer counseling, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Call (212) 675-3559.

DIGNITY BIG APPLE, social and service event for gay and lesbian Catholics. 8 p.m. Call (212) 818-1309.

KNIGHTS WRESTLING CLUB. Women's wrestling, noon-2 p.m. Men's training, 2-5 p.m. Call (212) 639-5141.

LIFE DRAWING SEMINAR, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call (201) 792-9619.

LITERACY PROGRAM, help others read and write. 2-6 p.m. Call (718) 670-3604.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Open gay mtg., 5 p.m. Saturday night fellowship, 10 p.m.

PHILOSOPHY CLUB, discussion ranges from Plato to NATO. 3-5 p.m. Call (201) 798-9566.

PRIME TIMERS, general mtg. 2-5 p.m. Call (212) 929-1035.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

SOUTH ASIAN LESBIAN AND GAY ASSOCIATION/SALGA, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Call (212) 358-5132.

ZAPPALORTI SOCIETY, support/self-help group for psychiatric survivors. 2-4 p.m. Call (718) 442-1838.

SUNDAY

25 **FAST AND FABULOUS.** Paulette Meggoe rides up to Port Chester in Westchester County. Freezing temperatures will cancel the ride. Call (718) 652-1752 for time and meeting location.

GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT, over-50 forum. 3 p.m.

GAY MEN'S PERFORMANCE GROUP, workshop format provides the opportunity to share stories with one another. All are welcome. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Call (212) 252-2285.

IDENTITY HOUSE, therapy and gay men's discussion. 7-9 p.m. $6.

LONG YANG CLUB, Chinese New Year feast. Food, games, and prizes. Dinner, $15. 1-4 p.m. West Side Chef, 315 W. 57th St. Call (212) 539-7567.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH/NY. SUNDAY SERVICES, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Spanish services, 12:30 p.m. 446 W. 36th St. (9th and 10th Aves.). Call (212) 629-7400.

PARK AVE. CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Sunday service. 11 a.m. PACC, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). Call (212) 288-3246.

WEEKLY EVENTS

AL-ANON, 5 p.m.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 647-1680.

BI-PERSPECTIVES, support/discussion/social group. 3-4:30 p.m. Call (212) 459-4784.

BISEXUAL OPTIONS, activist group for bi-visibility. 6-9 p.m. Call (212) 969-0702

CH'I' KUNG, exercises to promote health and wellness. 6-7 p.m. $2. Call (201) 746-7868.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS. Meditation, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Topic mtg., 12:30 p.m.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS, 8:30 p.m. Call (212) 685-3002.

DEBTORS ANONYMOUS, 12:15 p.m.

GAY AND LESBIAN MARITAL ARTS CLUB, weekly workout sessions. 7-8:30 p.m. Call (212) 533-3244.

GRACE OASIS MINISTRIES, gay Pentecostal worship service. Service, 6-9 p.m. Coffee hour, 9-10 p.m. Call (718) 788-5693.

GRAND SLAM BRIDGE GROUP, 2-5 p.m. Call (212) 989-8226.

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR GAY MEN, 8:45-10:15 p.m. Call (212) 307-5583.

IDENTITY HOUSE, Sunday night gay men's support group, 7-9 p.m. Call (212) 243-8181.

KNIGHTS WRESTLING CLUB, men's wrestling, 2:30-5 p.m. Call (718) 639-5141.

METRO GAY WRESTLING ALLIANCE, 2-5 p.m. Call (212) 563-7066.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, 2:15 p.m.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, gay men's mtg., 7 p.m.

SCA EN ESPANOL, 7 p.m. Call (212) 388-9124.

SEXUAL COMPULSIVES ANONYMOUS. Call for a listing of events, (212) 439-1123.

SURVIVORS OF INCEST ANONYMOUS, women body image and sexuality mtg. 3-5 p.m.

AGENDA

upcoming events in the community

Share and share alike

It may be the middle of winter, but now is the time to make summer housing arrangements. This week's "Share-a-thon" matches people who want shares on Fire Island (Cherry Grove or the Pines), the Hamptons, or other summer getaways with those with room to spare. Those who are offering shares — long-term housing to rent or buy — will have table space for photos, floor plans, maps, and other information for seekers to browse. Admission for share-seekers is $15 per person, while those offering a share pay $35. Sponsored by the Network of Business and Professional Organizations, the event is from 6 to 9 p.m. on Jan. 19 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center (3rd Floor), 208 W. 13th St. Participants may register in advance or pay at the door. Other Share-a-thons are slated for Feb. 16, March 16, March 30, and April 20. For more information or to register, call (212) 462-3100.

Dyke 2000

Get ready for the 21st century at the Lesbian Millenium Project's futuristic fundraiser and dance party, called Dyke 2000. Formed in August, the radical action group is dedicated to such issues as education and workplace diversity. Organizers promise to fill the benefit with "the freshest future gals since Judy Jetson took up with Barbarella." The fundraiser begins at 9 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 17, at the Rising Café, 182 5th Ave. in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Tickets are $5. For more information, call (212) 613-5740.

Bumper pool

Gay Men's Health Crisis is sponsoring an ongoing series entitled "One Night Stands" for gay and bisexual men of varying HIV status to discuss health and wellness issues. The next topic is "Pull Up To My Bumper, Baby," which will address anal sex as an issue for HIV-negative gay men. The discussion will be from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27, at GMHC, 119 W. 24th St., Room 1160. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (212) 367-1519.

Sex and the Bible

As part of its ongoing Friday Night Forum series, Gay Men of African Descent will take on "Homophobia and Christianity." Kevin McGruder will facilitate a panel discussion about the Bible's relevance to sex, and the Rev. James Forbes will address issues of religion and homosexuality. The forum begins at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23, at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. For more information, call (212) 420-0773.

Talk about sex

The Park Avenue Christian Church, an "open and affirming" congregation, sponsors the Gay, Lesbian, and Affirming Disciples Alliance (GLAD), which holds regular discussion meetings on topics concerning religion and sexuality. The next talk is "Twelve Authoritative Words on Sex," which will explore casual sex, privacy issues, and relationships. The discussion is at 7 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 19, at PACC, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). For more information, call (212) 288-3246.

Honoring our heroes

The Temple of Universal Judaism (Congregation Daat Elohim) and the Park Avenue Christian Church join forces for an interfaith service to honor Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, two key figures in the 1960s civil rights movement. The service, marking the 30th anniversary of King's assassination and the 25th anniversary of Heschel's death, will include both Christian and Jewish elements. The service will begin at 11 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18, at the Park Avenue Christian Church, 1010 Park Ave. (85th St.). For more information, call (212) 580-2458.

Feminist minyan

New York City's gay synagogue, Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, will hold a feminist minyan next weekend, including a new siddur with room for discussion and study. Men and women are invited to participate. Those who own *The Book of Blessings* are asked to bring copies; a limited number of copies are available for use during the service. The service will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24, at CBST, 57 Bethune St. For more information, call (212) 929-9498.

In the swim

The Team New York Aquatics and Red Tide of New York swim teams will participate in a "Laps for Life" benefit. Swimmers from both teams will take the plunge to see how far they can swim in an hour. All proceeds from the event will go to the New York Peer AIDS Education Coalition, an organization serving young people. This event, now in its eighth year, has raised more than $100,000 for AIDS groups. From 6 a.m. to 12 noon on Sunday, Jan. 25, pledged swimmers will compete at the Columbia University Pool (Dodge Athletic Center), 117th St. (Broadway). The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (212) 463-0885.

In memory

The Gender Identity Project will sponsor a special night to commemorate transgendered people who have died of AIDS, violence, old age, or addictions. The event is called "They Lived it OUT," and scheduled speakers include Leslie Feinberg, Riki Anne Wilchins, Candis Cayne, Hedda Lettuce, and Andre Stevens. The group will also unveil a collage of poetry, photos, and essays written in memory those who have died. The event will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. For more information, call Rosalyne Blumenstein, GIP Director, (212) 620-7310.

—HEATHER CALOMESE

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WWW.GAYNYC.NET NYC's gay & lesbian business organization, social & event directory, virtual mall, matchmaking, chat, e-cards, news & weather. Come register your webpage with us.

MEDIA OUTREACH PROJECT, a component of Exponents, Inc., has established a hotline which offers information, education & referrals for HIV/AIDS, substance abuse & other harm reduction services. Hotline hours are 9am-5pm Mon to Fri. Call (800) 673-7370.

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NEWS REPORTER THE NEW YORK BLADE NEWS is seeking a reporter w/ at least three yrs exp to cover local & state issues. Familiarity w/ the gay community, especially political & AIDS issues, is essential. Send résumé & three clips to: James Lamont; THE NEW YORK BLADE NEWS; 242 W 30th St, 4th Fl.; New York, NY 10001.

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RESEARCHER / ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE to assist author of gay men's health book. Strong editorial, interviewing, organizational & research skills required. Knowledge of internet, gay community required; journalism exp preferred. Full time, short term (six months). Résumé, clips & salary requirements to GMHC GUIDE; 119 West 24th Street; New York, NY 10011; (212) 367-1112, fax.

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RUTH LEVINE, CSW, psychotherapist. Offices in New Paltz & Wood-stock. (914) 334-2008. Office in NYC on Upper West Side, (212) 665-6189. Individuals, couples & fami-lies.

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THERAPIST MICHELE FRANK, CSW. Offers recovery workshop for gay & lesbian adult survivors of child sexual & physical abuse as well as individual treatment. Sliding scale starting at $30. For info call, (212) 957-9376.

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Good Morning!

You look absolutely radiant today. Love really suits you well. You should write a Valentine ad, don't you think? Maybe this form would be useful.

BLADE NEWS **Personals**

Valentines

Valentines will appear in the February 13 issue – the **deadline** for your ad is **February 11 at 1:00 pm**, so don't delay!

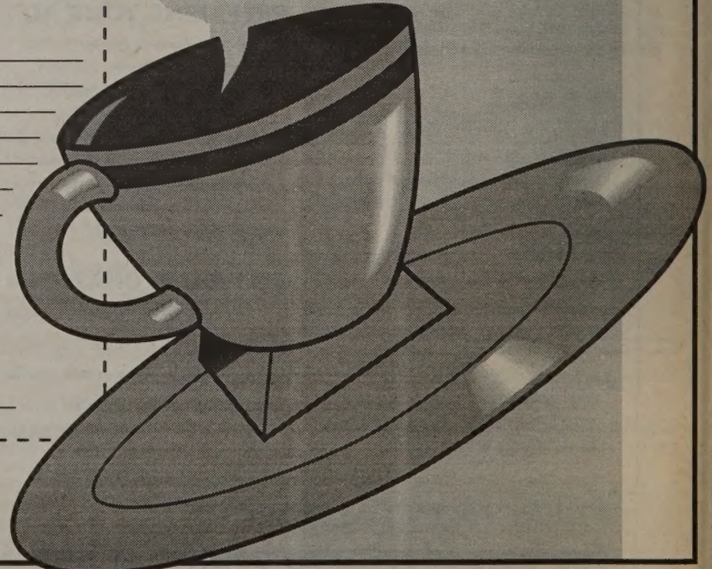
♥ _____ ♥
(name of your Valentine)

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

♥ _____ ♥
(your name)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: $_____ (# of words × 60¢)
Checks accepted. If using Visa/MC, don't forget # and Exp. Date: _____



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RENT / MANHATTAN

CHELSEA, PRIME Turn of the century brownstone, lovely 1BR triplex, renovated BA & kit, 18' ceils, hdwd flrs, WD. $2,200. Exclusive CITIHABITATS, Call Elka, (212) 685-7300x229.

GREENWICH VILLAGE EAST / 7th St. Prime! Just released: real 3 BR, approx 1800 sq ft. Entire private floor in landmark brownstone. Orig detail, hdwd flrs, new country kit, WD, pets OK. $3,500. Call Orly, CITI HABITATS, (212) 685-7300 x209.

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RENT / BROOKLYN

PROSPECT HEIGHTS Great 1BR, 1BA in quiet coop. Light, detail, high ceilings, marble BA w/ jacuzzi, granite kit, free laundry in building. $1,000 Now. PORTER REALTY, (718) 643-2315.

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LOOKING TO SHARE

WEST SIDE / DOWNTOWN Prof SF seeks prof GM to find 2 BR apt to share. Smokers OK. Willing to pay up to $750/mo. Stable, responsible GM only. Serious only. Call Uma, (212) 268-8600, 10am-6pm.

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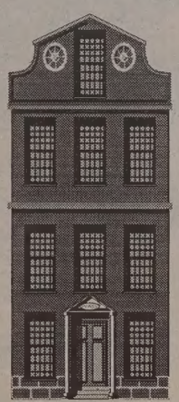

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

BLADE NEWS Personals

Respond Now!

PERSONALS / WOMEN

SLEEPLESS IN NY 5'10", soft butch, slim-medium build, light brown-blond hair, well dressed, articulate. You are femme, 35-45, 5'6" - 5'9", slim-medium, well dressed, articulate, attr to hold for new year. **Out©Line 1166** (2/19)

GWJF, 34, ISO GWJF. I once walked along the shore when I came upon a seashell. I listened to its beautiful sound until all the sand fell in my ear. If you can appreciate the serious & funny, please call. **Out©Line 1165** (2/19)

SHY GHF Soft butch, 26, affectionate, romantic & loving. ISO of a femme who's looking for love & not games, who loves music & movies. Affectionate a +. Healthy & drug-free. No butches. **Out©Line 1161** (2/19)

FEB 14 DEADLINE! 30-something cynical, soft butch, coffee drinking, nonsmoking, TV-watching, writer-type seeks similar, 30-45, for gritty NYC fun: flea markets, film, galleries, alternative music, weekends away, etc. I hate bars, smoke, skinny girls, thick NY/NJ/PA accents. So do you. **Out©Line 1157** (2/19)

GBF, 28 Attr, down-to-earth, sincere, seeks GBF or GHF w/ good intentions for conversation & dining. All calls will be answered. No bi's. No roles. Healthy & drug-free. **Out©Line 1172** (2/19)

LONELY IN NEW ENGLAND GBF, 40, music lover, soft butch seeks feminine GBF 35-50 for friendship & good times, political discussions, & whatever else comes to mind. Wanna hang? **Out©Line 1153** (2/19)

GWF BUTCH looking for Ms Right (GWF or GHF), very femme, long hair, nice build. Please be real, no phonies & love cats. Also looking for friends. 30+. **Out©Line 1152** (2/19)

FULL FIGURED JAMAICAN woman, 35, seeking down-to-earth, slim to medium build female friend, 35+, for friendship or relation-ship. Prefer Queens or Long Island resident. Race unimportant. Healthy & drug-free. **Out©Line 1148** (2/19)

ARE YOU TIRED of the clubs? Attr GBF seeking settled, down-to-earth woman who enjoys music, reading, walks & poetry. No bi's/butches. Healthy a must. **Out©Line 1147** (2/19)

GWJF, 34 ISO GF who wants to share things we have in common, grow & learn from our differences & can communicate during both. **Out©Line 1146** (2/19)

DREAMS CAN COME TRUE Sexy, cerebral, loving SW gay warrior princess ISO her match: a beautiful, brilliant, tender soul who knows how to live life & who craves both romance & excitement. **Out©Line 1143** (2/19)

GF, 30, FEMME, fit, successful, good listener, charming, very attr. ISO same, 28-40. Looking for someone to trust, respect, laugh w/ & love. **Out©Line 1144** (2/19)

GWF 45 Pretty, natural red-head, 5'8", 145#, seeks feminine who loves to travel, go to the theater, dance & long walks on the beach. I am an upbeat person & looking for a good friend, possible relationship. **Out©Line 1142** (2/19)

GWF, BR / GRN, 30s w/ eclectic interests ISO GF who wants a healthy LTR. No game players, serious responses only. **Out©Line 1145** (2/19)

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GLANCES / WOMEN

PARTING GLANCES... They can be exciting. . . romantic. . . intriguing. . . . Check out Glances to see who's looking for you.

QUEENS PLAZA E/F platform. You stood out w/ your East Village look, bright red hair & eyebrow piercing. I was the short girl w/ the perennial leather jacket & jeans. We used to spot each other almost daily a little after 8am. I almost get up the nerve to make more than eye contact. Where'd you go? **Out©Line 1163** (2/19)

PERSONALS / MEN

SOMEONE OPEN but w/ mystery. Seeking such a man, 30-40, for LTR to excite & delight, teach & bless us both. My stats: handsome, 47, beard, 5'7", 150#, good body, good career, good health, good attitude. **Out©Line 1160** (2/19)

UNIQUE POSITION for hunky intellectual. GWM, 42 (looks 30), 6', 185# & ardor-ready; progressive art-maker w/ powerful defined body, good looks & a mind to match -- seeks rugged intellectual counterpart w/ a fervid imagination & a wild gleam in his eye. Wisdom, compassion & an insatiable dancelust desirable. **Out©Line 1167** (2/19)

MARRIAGE-MINDED ONLY Very gdlkg Indian doctor, 33, 5'9", 180#, in-shape. Looking for masc, aggressive guy, 35-45, stocky a +. **Out©Line 1168** (2/19)

RENAISSANCE ARTIST 48, 5'9", br/bl, trim beard, gdlkg, easy-going, 165#, loves classical music, jazz, museums, travel, cooking, seeks 40-something dark, hairy Latino for LTR. **Out©Line 1151** (2/19)

BESTSELLING AUTHOR Smart, handsome, witty & loving. GWJM, 44, 5'10", 150#, extremely healthy, nonsmoker, looking for a guy who's creative, filled w/ energy, w/ a heart that's as sweet as his smile. Let's read by the fire. Explore a sunny island. Laugh. Your down comforter or mine? **Out©Line 1150** (2/19)

MAN TO MAN GWM, 41 yrs young, intelligent, warm, sensitive, hard-working, artistic w/ goals. I am 5'10", 155#, br eyes, full lips, olive complexion. ISO someone who cares about himself, who is able to share life & be adventurous, is open-minded, w/ directions, between 25-45, Latin, Italian, Black. Do not answer if you're into role-playing, out of shape, like to hang out at bars or looking for just sex. **Out©Line 1104** (2/19)

GBM, 30, 5'10" 185#, younger-looking college graduate, clean cut, attr, athletic & muscular. You: GWM, slim/lean/musc, 20-30. **Out©Line 1154** (2/19)

ALTHOUGH I'M 42 I get stares due to my lean but muscled body. I'm 5'11", 152#, GWM, not into scene. I seek a guy around my size or proportionate. Smaller, proud of physique, into sports, movies, home (32-42). **Out©Line 1155** (2/19)

WARM, GOOD LOOKING GWM, 55, 6'2", 165#, br hair, swimmer's build (I work out 3 times a week). I'm a published writer who travels, photographs, keeps up w/ movies, books & plays. Looking for in shape, sensitive guy to share hugs at night & hot, strong coffee in the morning.**Out©Line 1141** (2/19)

SOMEONE STRONG & sincere. GM, 40, attr, smart & special seeks GM (any race, any age) of character. Let's spend some time together -- & take it from there. Someone strong & sincere. **Out©Line 1139** (2/12)

DEMON LOVER If you seek a demon lover, walk w/ me awhile. Cherubino's the name; Amore's my game. Am I sinister or cruel? Misericordia! My eyes may be dark, but my soul is the color of the core of the sun. **Out©Line 1132** (2/5)

SINCERE mature young gentleman would like to meet a sensual, intimate, humorous young man who wants to experience life in broadest spectrum. Interests include wrestling, T&F, bodybuilding, music, Broadway, dancing, cooking, travel & quiet evenings. Seeking LTR without games or drugs; must be healthy & want a "we" not a "me." Warm regards. **Out©Line 1131** (2/5)

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GLANCES / MEN

PARTING GLANCES... They can be exciting. . . romantic. . . intriguing. . . . Check out Glances to see who's looking for you.

TOWNHOUSE Fri 1/9. The eye games are fun. Now let's talk. Don't be so shy, I don't bite in spite of what you've heard. **Out©Line 1171** (2/19)

NINTH AVENUE ARRIBA ARRIBA, Mon 1/12. You were seated alone at a corner table, short hair cut, very gdlkg. I was w/ a female friend across the room. You winked, I melted (although partly due to the jalapeños). Burrito? **Out©Line 1170** (2/19)

PRESCRIPTIVE FITNESS Early morning workout. You: handsome, shorter, in green muscle shirt. Me: t-shirt & sweats. First time I've seen you. You skillfully made eye contact amid the crowd then left. Call. **Out©Line 1169** (2/19)

UPTOWN M15 BUS Tues 1/13, close to 6pm. We both got on at 14th St. You were wearing a blue peacoat w/ a black messenger bag strapped along your chest (wish I was, too!). **Out©Line 1159** (2/19)

OUTSIDE LA ESCUELITA Fri (1/2) night/early Sat morning. You were about 5'10", Latino, in a heavy overcoat, leaving. I was the tall blond getting some air. I overheard you & your hunky friend wondering if I would be "into it." I would. **Out©Line 1164** (2/19)

CHRIS We met across the street from DICK'S BAR on Sat 1/10 around 11pm. You're a great kisser & the harness under your shirt left me wanting. **Out©Line 1158** (2/19)

MoMA, EARLY AFTERNOON Sat 1/10. Me: 5'10", br/grn, wire glasses, grn sweater & jeans. You: all in black, salt & pepper hair, beautiful br eyes. We smiled several times. Let's get together & talk Boccioni. **Out©Line 1162** (2/19)

CHASE ATM on 7th Ave between 27th & 28th streets. Mon 1/12, 2pm. You: tall, brown hair, green jacket, w/ a woman friend. Me: on line w/ my eyes on you. Loved your long stare before exiting. Let's get together! Call me. **Out©Line 1156** (2/19)

ON CRUTCHES We smiled on the street, then at a diner & finally at JACKIE BROWN on New Year's Day. You were adorable & on crutches. **Out©Line 1140** (2/12)

Personals WITH Out©Line

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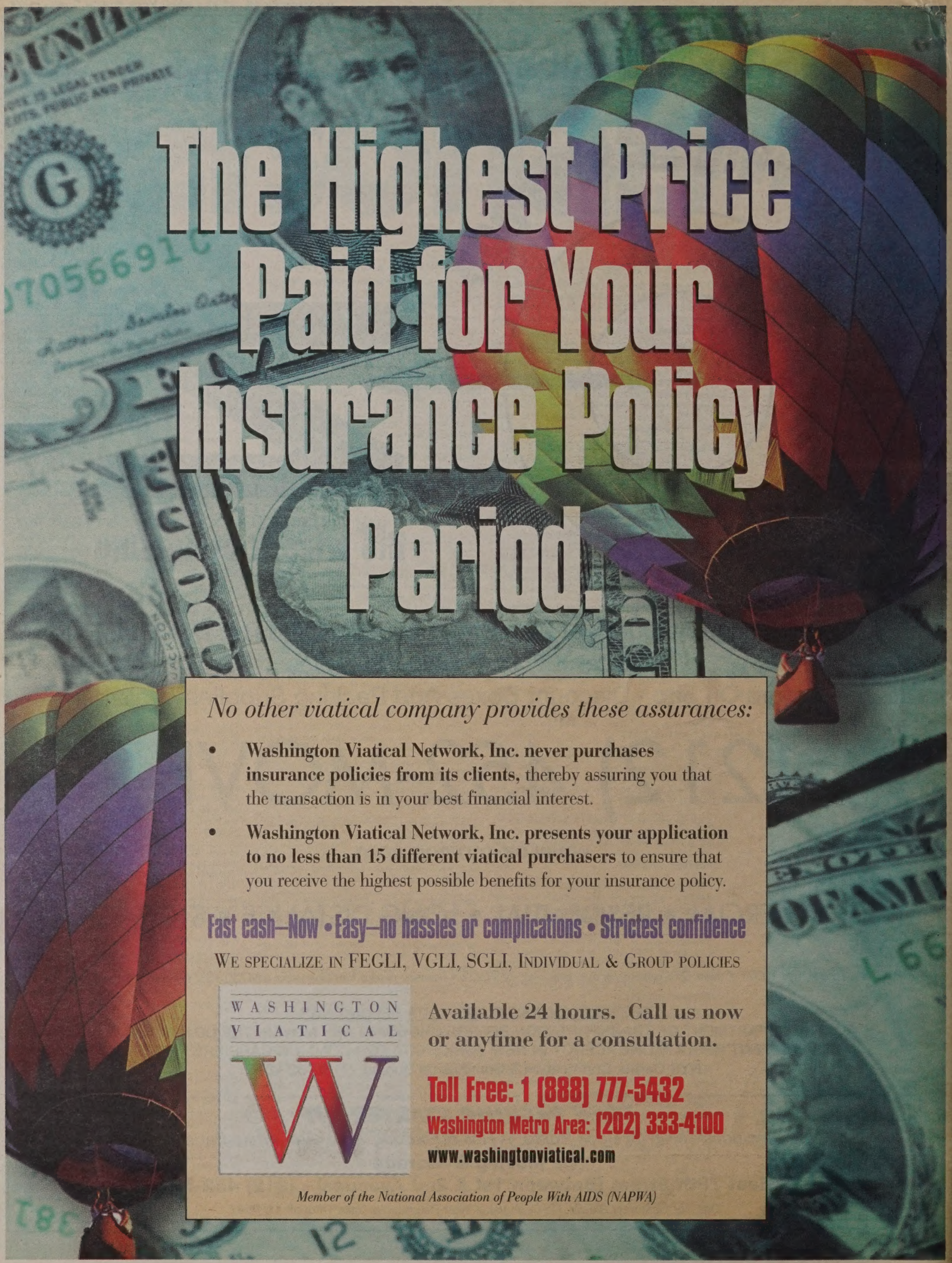

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